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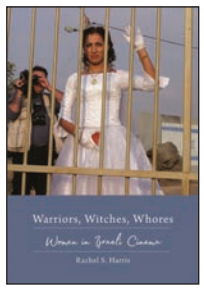

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JEWISH NEWS

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Zvi Gitelman: Reflecting on politics, history and 49 years at Michigan

Jeffrey Veidlinger, special to the WJN

Longtime Judaic Studies faculty member Zvi Gitelman, Preston R. Tisch Professor of Judaic Studies and Political Science, will be retiring from the University of Michigan this year. The Frankel Center for Judaic Studies invites the community to attend a celebration of Gitelman's scholarly contributions on December 4, in Rackham Assembly Hall. The day will begin with a 3 p.m. panel discussion on Jews and politics, featuring Anna Shternshis of the University of Toronto, David Fishman of the Jewish Theological Seminary and Todd Endelman of the University of Michigan, followed by a 5 p.m. lecture by Gitelman, "Reflecting on Politics, History and Half a Century at Michigan."

The opening of the Soviet archives during *glasnost* was one of the greatest finds in Jewish studies, arguably rivaled only by Solomon Schechter's identification of the Cairo Geniza and the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls by three Bedouin shepherds. While numerous discoveries of forgotten Soviet Yiddish poets, Judaic religious practices in Ukraine, Holocaust-era killing sites in Belarus, and lost manuscripts in St. Petersburg have transformed Jewish studies, the central arguments that Zvi Gitelman has advanced—many long before the opening of the archives confirmed

Zvi Gitelman

his views—have remained relevant, accurate, and influential.

Gitelman's first book, *Jewish Nationality and Soviet Politics: The Jewish Sections of the CPSU, 1917–1930*, based on his Columbia dissertation and written during a period in which American scholarship was highly politicized by Cold War battles, presented a nuanced and revisionist account of the Jewish experience in the Soviet Union. In his reading, which he expanded in his monumental textbook, *A Century of Ambivalence: The Jews of Russia and the Soviet Union, 1881 to the Present*, the early revolutionary years were neither the culmination of Jewish political achievement nor the result of unbridled oppression, but rather represented a failed attempt at cultural, intellectual, and political rebirth.

Gitelman's 1997 volume, *Bitter Legacy: Confronting the Holocaust in the USSR*, initiated a whole new direction of scholarship on both the Holocaust and the Soviet Union. He showed that the Soviet government did not completely suppress knowledge of the Holocaust, as had commonly been assumed, but rather reinterpreted the Holocaust to conform to a broader Soviet intellectual framework. More recently, Gitelman's *Jewish Identities in Postcommunist Russia and Ukraine: An Uncertain Ethnicity* was the result of a decade of surveys among post-Soviet Russian and Ukrainian Jews about their attitudes toward Jewish identity and Judaism. This sobering account shows that while some post-Soviet Jews have taken on aspects of Jewish identity, it is what Gitelman calls a "thin" identity, and is unlikely to be sustained in future generations.

Gitelman's scholarship has earned him accolades from Uzbekistan to Brighton Beach, but here in Michigan he is more widely recognized as a favorite professor for generations of Michigan students. Those who have had the

continued on page 2

A new taste of the Old World: Chanukah food and fun at EMU

Martin B. Shichtman, special to the WJN

Celebrity chefs Liz Alpern and Jeffrey Yoskowitz joined forces in 2012 to form *The Gefilteria*, a project devoted to reimagining Eastern European Jewish cuisine, adapting classic dishes to the values and tastes of a new generation. They write, "We're the people with the chutzpah to believe that Old World Jewish foods can be beautiful, inspiring, and delicious." Motivated by the need for a fresh approach to rescuing Jewish cooking and culture, Alpern and Yoskowitz have now created a culinary laboratory where Ashkenazi stories and culinary wisdom from the Old World are explored and brought into the new. They draw inspiration from their ancestors, old cookbooks, family letters and Yiddish literature, as well as peers in the culinary world, to cook classic Jewish foods from their childhoods (think kugel, chicken soup, blintzes, pastrami, pickles, etc.) and less common dishes too (like fermented tonics, fruit soups, roasted goose, etc.).

Jeffrey Yoskowitz and Liz Alpern at *The Gefilteria*

On Tuesday, December 12, at 6 p.m., in the Eastern Michigan University Student Center ballroom, Alpern and Yoskowitz will supervise a dinner, do a culinary demonstration, and tell stories about old world cooking sure to warm the heart and inspire the soul. As this is the first night of Chanukah, there will also be a candle-lighting ceremony. Tickets are $36 and available online from bit.ly/Chanukahfoodandfun or by calling Donor Relations at (734) 487-6692. ■

Sacred Song partners with Washtenaw Congregational Sanctuary

Deborah Greene, special to the WJN

The entire community is invited to the 22nd Annual Evening of Sacred Song on December 2. Sacred Song is a secular multi-ethnic group of performers who give voice to social change, environmental justice, and to peace.

As in all previous years, Sacred Song's concert proceeds will be donated to a local

not-for-profit social justice effort. The 2017 beneficiary is Washtenaw Congregational Sanctuary (WCS), an interfaith coalition of congregations and unaffiliated individuals throughout Washtenaw County who have joined together to support immigrants and their families in our community. The purpose of the contribution is to support local congregations in providing refuge.

Sacred Song performs both *a cappella* and accompanied by an ensemble of some of the area's strongest talents on guitar, bass, keyboard, and percussion. The 2017 concert will feature local favorites Faye Askew-King, Cassandra Compton-Montgomery, Deborah Greene, D. Yarrow Halstead, Gwynne Jennings, Cathy Keresztesi-Stevens, Laura Machida, Nancy Kerner, Jeff Pickell, La'Ron Williams, and Robin Wilson. Also featured are guest artists Rhonda Bantsimba, Sam Clark, and Mary Anne Perrone. Consummate musician and performer Brian Buckner returns as 2017 musical director.

The concert will begin at 7 p.m., at the First Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 4001 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd, Ann Arbor. For tickets go to *https://sacredsong2017.eventbrite.com.* Suggested donation is $20/ticket. Before December 1, tickets are $15; Children under 12, free. No one is turned away due to inability to pay. For additional information, email wcsfund@gmail.com. ■

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Youth service-learning at Kids Care Fair

Laurie Cohen, special to the WJN

Because today's kids who care are tomorrow's leaders" is the theme of the Kids Care Fair hosted by Jewish Family Services. Emerson School has generously agreed to host this service learning event on Sunday, March 18 from 3–5 p.m. "The goal of this program is to instill young children with compassion, awareness and civic-mindedness," said Sarah Hong, director of programs and outreach. "It follows the Jewish adage of tikkun olam, repairing the world." This event will engage and energize children and youth in the community about service and giving back.

Last year over 200 children participated in the service learning activities that included a food pantry scavenger hunt, disability awareness and sensitivity activities, a musical instrument petting zoo, reading nook and story-time and multiple themed arts and crafts stations focusing on values such as gratitude, "welcoming the stranger," and kindness to older adults. JFS is thrilled to be partnering with many local community organizations to deliver this important event.

The event's activities are designed for children ages 2–10 and their families, but there is an additional layer of service-learning for "the big kids." Older community youth from local organizations are themselves planning, organizing and executing activity stations at the Kids Care Fair.

Tickets are on sale now with all proceeds benefitting JFS family programs. Tickets are $25 per family or $50 for a host family. No family will be turned away due to an inability to pay. Sliding scale tickets are readily available online at the time of registration. For more information about the JFS Kids Care fair and to register, visit www.jfsannarbor.org/kids-care-fair. Any teens or community partners interested in learning more about participating in the Kids Care Fair as activity partners or volunteers should emails programs@jfsannarbor.org. ■

Chanukah and Jewish Jeopardy events at JCS

Barbara Banet, special to the WJN

All are welcome to join the Jewish Cultural Society on December 1 to celebrate Chanukah. Latkes and schmoozing will follow a short secular Shabbat observance that begins at 6:30 p.m. Special Chanukah-related activities are planned for all interested participants. Children are welcome. The cost is $10/person or $25/family. Register online at www.jewishculturalsociety.org/observances/shabbat/

On January 12, Jewish Jeopardy will follow a short secular Shabbat observance and dinner from a local restaurant. Jewish Jeopardy is fun for children and adults alike. The cost is $10/person or $25/family. Register online at www.jewishculturalsociety.org/observances/shabbat/

ORT Chanukah party December 14

Joan Levitt, special to the WJN

On Thursday, December 14, the Ann Arbor Chapter of ORT America will host a "Chai'nukah" party at the home of Ruth Petit. The party will begin at 6 p.m. and include a light dinner. The admission is $18 (Chai), which will help support the programs and mission of ORT America. ORT members and prospective members are invited to attend.

The Chanukah celebration will feature good food, great company, candle-lighting, and a book exchange. Joan Cohen Jones will give a talk about the Hebrew calendar, and why the dates of the Jewish holidays change every year. Participants are asked to bring the $18 donation to ORT and a new or gently used wrapped book.

Readers are urged to visit the Ann Arbor chapter's website at www.ortannarbor.org, as well as ORT America's national website at www.ortamerica.org, to learn about this international organization which enables over 300,000 students annually to attain successful careers, become community leaders and live independently.

To RSVP or for further information, contact Joan Levitt at jflevitt2@gmail.com or at (734) 665-5061, by Monday, December 4. Rides are available upon request. ■

Zvi Gitelman, continued from page 1

good fortune to study with him recall how hard they had to work for that B+, and how much they learned in the process. His passion, wit, erudition, and high expectations often come up in student comments.

Although he is retiring from the classroom after 49 years, Gitelman continues to be an active teacher and researcher. He is currently working on at least two books, and is initiating a larger project to help Russian-Jewish immigrants learn about their own heritage. He remains engaged in charitable and professional organizations around the country, from the Joint Distribution Committee to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. One of the founders of the Frankel Center, Gitelman remains a voice of authority and a stalwart defender of the highest standards of teaching and research.

When the last chapter of Deuteronomy is read in synagogue on the festival of Simchat Torah, it is customary for the congregation to chant "*Chazak, chazak ve nitchazek*," (Be strong, be strong, and let us gather new strength.), after which the congregation immediately begins reading the Torah anew from the first chapter of Genesis. As one session of study ends, another begins. As Zvi Gitelman begins a new session of study, the U-M community wishes him *chazak, chazak ve nitchazek*. ■

WASHTENAW JEWISH NEWS

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JCC's Israel Center to present programs on civil rights and film and literature

Clara Silver, special to the WJN

Building on the success of the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor's launch of its newest initiative, the Israel Center, on November 5, a second monthly event will be held on December 10, at 1 p.m. at the JCC. Bryan K. Roby, Ph.D. will speak about civil rights in Israel and the United States. His presentation will guide participants in contrasting the historical social justice protests of the familiar Civil Rights Movement in the United States with the unfamiliar protests that arose in Israel due to discriminatory treatment of its Middle Eastern/Near Eastern descent Jews. This event will be free of charge.

Roby joined the faculty at the University of Michigan's Frankel Center for Judaic Studies this academic year, after spending last year as a fellow. His focus is on Middle Eastern and North African Jewish history in the modern era. He authored, *The Mizrahi Era of Rebellion: Israel's Forgotten Civil Rights Struggle 1948–1966*, and is currently working on a second volume that will explore the shifting boundaries of racial constructs in Israel/Palestine, and address how

Bryan K. Roby, Ph.D

and why Middle Eastern Jews became associated with Blackness.

The third event in the Israel Center conversation series will take place January 27–29, 2018, when, along with partner Eastern Michigan University Center for Judaic Studies, it will bring guest speaker Dr. Rachel Harris to present a three-part mini-course on Israeli film. The mini-course will be divided into three-hour sessions that will include a presentation, full length film, and post-screening discussion. The mini-course is entitled "Gender, Race, and Racism: Israeli Cinema at the Cutting Edge." Session I will be "Witches and Wailers: The Depiction of Mizrahi Women in Israeli Film" which will include screening the film *Three Mothers, from 2006*. Session II will be "A Woman of Valor: The Politics of Religious Women's Filmmaking in Israel," which will include screening the Rama Burshtein film from 2016, *Fill the Void*. The final session, Session III, will be "Living Without Papers: Foreign Workers as a Feminist Issue," which will include screening the film, *Noodle*, from 2007.

Dr. Rachel Harris

Participants may choose to attend any or all of the mini-course sessions. Session I will be held Saturday, January 27, 2018 from 7–10 p.m. Session II will be held Sunday, January 28, 2018 from 1–4 p.m. Session III will be held later that same Sunday, 6–9 p.m. A light dairy lunch will be provided to participants who pre-register for Sessions II and III by January 24, 2018, served during the break between sessions. All sessions will take place at the J's building at 2935 Birch Hollow Drive, Ann Arbor.

On Monday, January 29, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. Dr. Harris will conclude her visit to the area with a lecture based on her 2017 book, *Warriors, Witches, Whores: Women in Israeli Cinema* at the EMU Student Center. Dr. Harris is associate professor of Israeli literature and culture at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champagne. All events presented by Dr. Harris will be free of charge due to financial support from The Academic Engagement Network.

The Israel Center is funded through a grant from the Impact Fund, a program of the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, to serve as a community focal point for convening, celebrating, and exploring Israel, its culture, and its impacts on Jewish life in the local and broader communities. In addition to the JCC, the Israel Center has an advisory committee comprised of representatives from the U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies, Eastern Michigan University Center for Jewish Studies, the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, Beth Israel Congregation, and Temple Beth Emeth. Registration is requested for each of these programs to ensure seating for everyone and a timely start. For more information about the Israel Center events visit jccannarbor.org and click on any of the above listed events which will include links to register, or contact Clara Silver, director of operations at (734) 971-0990 or clarasilver@jccannarbor.org. ■

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Michigan student government passes BDS resolution against Israel

WJN staff writers

On November 15, The University of Michigan's Central Student Government voted 23-17-5 in a secret ballot in favor of a divestment resolution targeting Israel.

In a letter sent to the Michigan Hillel's student community Joshua Blum, chair of the Hillel Governing Board and Tilly Shames, Hillel executive director, stated,

> "We are so proud of all of the students who worked tirelessly on their speeches, articles, and educational programs. The students acted with integrity, spoke with passion, and expressed immense pride in their relationship with Israel. They exposed all of the fallacies and biases of the divestment resolution, expressed their concern for the implications of it passing, and condemned its one-sided attack on Israel and the deep divisions it brings to the student community. This resolution was designed to pit students against each other, and, as we have said many times when it has been defeated in the past, nobody wins when the result is hurt, and there is division on campus.
>
> We call on President Schlissel to condemn this one-sided and hurtful resolution, and make a statement that the University will not be pressured by this decision. We also call on the University to condemn the student government vote to deny Professor Lieberman the right to speak against the resolution; a disrespectful action against a respected member of our University community.
>
> Furthermore, we trust that the Board of Regents will speak out against this one-sided resolution, as they have in past, and remind the campus community that they have already rejected this resolution when it passed at University of Michigan-Dearborn last winter.
>
> We also hope that the University will expand its partnerships with Israel, develop new avenues for students to study in Israel, and encourage faculty to deepen their research ties with Israeli institutions. Through deepening our relationship with Israel, the University will present Israel as the vibrant democracy and intellectual leader that it is.
>
> While we are disappointed in this decision, we will not allow the hurt caused by the passing of this resolution to keep us from all of the important work there is to do within our community and on our campus. We hope that students will take advantage of all of the ways they can engage in dialogue with other communities, Israel education programs, and the numerous access points to Jewish life through Hillel."

The Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor has also sent a letter to U-M President Schlissel expressing it concern about the vote as well as some troubling aspects of the process. "We are also deeply troubled by the silencing of campus voices that occurred during the course of the debate," they wrote. "Professor Victor Lieberman, a respected history professor and community member was not allowed to present historical context, while outside activists with no ties to the university were permitted to speak and answer questions for well over an hour. This is particularly offensive as the proresolution supporters in the room spoke vociferously about the hurt they felt in having their voices silenced, but readily acted to silence those with whom they disagreed."

Federation's letter also asked that the University find ways to bring members from the many sides of this issue together for serious education and dialogue around what is a much more complicated and nuanced situation than SAFE would have the campus community believe. They also encouraged the University to expand its partnerships with Israel, develop new avenues for students from all backgrounds to study in Israel, and encourage faculty to deepen their research ties with Israeli institutions.

The proresolution supporters in the room spoke vociferously about the hurt they felt in having their voices silenced, but readily acted to silence those with whom they disagreed.

In addition, the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit, Jewish Community Relations Council/AJC, and ADL Michigan condemned the CSG vote adding, "At this moment, it is important to clarify the implications of such a resolution. This action by CSG is largely symbolic, as it has no bearing on the University and its investment strategy.

Since 2002, pro-divestment activists at the University of Michigan have failed 10 times to pass similar resolutions. The passage of the resolution reflects the advocacy of a small and vocal group of students who made this their priority issue. These activists took advantage of conditions on campus favorable to their cause as they conflated divestment with other popular social justice causes. The current CSG is made up of representatives who are more sympathetic to the pro-divestment position than in the past. Additionally, CSG actions during the course of the debate last night impacted the outcome of the debate, including denying U-M History professor Victor Lieberman the opportunity to speak and conducting the vote by secret ballot.

The Detroit Federation and ADL statement goes on to say, "We denounce this resolution as counterproductive to advancing thoughtful and informed dialogue on campus. Furthermore, while we appreciate the statement this morning from the University clarifying its investment strategy, we call upon the University administration to unequivocally repudiate what is a deeply divisive and biased response to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The resolution will only sow deeper division between students and it does nothing to advance the peaceful resolution of a conflict thousands of miles away from campus. We are concerned about the impact that it could have on Jewish students on campus who have deep ties to Israel." ■

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Third Thursday focuses on future of brains and newspapers

Rachael Hoffenblum, special to the WJN

The Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor's Third Thursday Lunch and Learn program will focus on future brain health on December 21, at noon, by welcoming Eastern Michigan University's Dr. Claudia Drossel, who will present "Keeping a Healthy Brain." Drossel will discuss steps to take in the present to maintain a healthy brain in the future, as well as explore how to interpret changes in brain functioning. Drossel will also provide updates from current research in aging and brain disorders. Drossel is an assistant professor of psychology at Eastern Michigan University who has contributed to over a dozen book chapters and co-authored a book on the topic of addressing difficulties in individuals with neurocognitive disorders such as Alzheimer's.

Third Thursday will present Jim McBee and Demond Johnson of ANNthology on Thursday, January 18, 2018, at noon. McBee and Johnson will discuss the rise of new sources of journalism as daily newspapers fade away, ANNthology's role, and what the future might hold in their presentation entitled "Journalism is Dead. Long Live Journalism." ANNthology is a five-day-a-week email newsletter that began January of 2017, which focuses on local and statewide news. Comprised of 17 collaborators ranging from the Ann Arbor Art Center to Purple Walrus Press and *Groundcover News*, McBee is a founding partner and currently acts as creative director. Johnson is the health and wellness coordinator for ANNthology and runs the weekly "Fitness Friday" column.

Dr Claudia Drossel

Demond Johnson

Jim McBee

For all Third Thursday events, presentations are free of charge and open to the public, however advance registration is appreciated by visiting jccannarbor.org or calling (734) 971-0990. Catered by Karan Balmer, an optional lunch will be available for purchase by calling (734) 971-0990. Lunches must be reserved at least one day in advance. To learn more about Third Thursday at the J and weekly Tuesday/Thursday lunch cafés, contact Rachael Hoffenblum, adult program coordinator, at rachaelhoffenblum@jccannarbor.org or (734) 971-0990. ■

Schiff's art, filled with color and joy, at the J

Karen Freedland, special to the WJN

On January 14, the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor will host painter Andy Schiff for a reception in the artist's honor from 3–5 p.m. in the Amster Gallery, where her paintings will hang through February 27, 2018. Schiff's works are a mix of abstract and interpretive. The artist layers color and texture for a deep and complex effect. For a time, personal tragedy prevented Schiff from working. However, Schiff notes, "Color and joy has reappeared in my life… there is nothing more fulfilling than standing in front of a large blank canvas, taking the plunge by laying down some colors and seeing where the flow takes me."

Schiff was first involved with art years ago when she built a backstrap loom based on weaving traditions from India, weaving scarves for friends and relatives. After studying weaving more closely, Schiff expanded into spinning and dyeing her own yarns. Schiff began to explore watercolors and acrylics when her living space changed and became too small for her loom. Observers may see the inspiration of weaving behind many of Schiff's current works. For more information on this and other Amster Gallery exhibitions and events, contact Karen Freedland, director of Jewish cultural arts and education, at karenfreedland@jccannarbor.org or (734) 971-0990. ■

"Grieving Through the Holidays" therapy group available

Laurie Cohen, special to the WJN

Services provided by JFS focus on key human needs to feel dignified and valued. One of JFS' many goals is to bring the community together to transform lives. The weeks between Thanksgiving and New Year's can be filled with grief for some people as they are reminded that, "holidays are time spent with loved ones." Holidays mark the passage of time. They are part of the milestones shared with each other and they generally represent time spent with family. For many people, this is the hardest part of grieving, when loved ones are missed even more than usual. The need for support may be the greatest during the holidays.

JFS is offering a therapy group called "Grieving through the Holidays." Conversations will focus on losses, new and old, and coping strategies to help navigate the holiday season. The group, facilitated by Sue Sefansky, LMSW and Caroline Kennedy, LMSW, will meet on Mondays, December 4, December 11, December 18 and January 8 from 5–6:30 p.m. The fee is $50 per session, with a sliding fee scale available. Most insurance plans will cover all or most of the cost. To sign up, contact Thrive Counseling at (734) 436-4249 or hello@thrivecounselingA2.com. ■

JFS' PhotoVoice exhibit at AADL Mallet's Creek Branch

Laurie Cohen, special to the WJN

JFS' "Through the Eyes of Refugees" PhotoVoice Exhibit will be on display at the Ann Arbor District Library's Mallets Creek branch from Sunday, January 28, until Thursday, March 15, 2018. The exhibit will be open to the public during the branch's normal operating hours, free of charge.

In the fall of 2016, the JFS PhotoVoice participants, refugees from Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, Sudan, and Iran, had the opportunity to capture their current experiences through pictures, with the goal of sparking dialogue and action related to the themes depicted in the photos. They were asked to photograph moments in their daily lives that had meaning for them as they worked to make a new home in Washtenaw County. "Photovoice" is the process of putting cameras in the hands of traditionally "voiceless" or marginalized community members to allow them to record, reflect on, and share their community's strengths and concerns.

Abbie Lawrence Jacobson, Ph.D., worked with the refugees for weeks and curated the exhibit. The endeavor was commissioned by JFS, and facilitated by Shrina Eadeh, LMSW, and Lawrence Jacobson,. For any inquiries, contact the development team at development@jfsannarbor.org. ■

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US Holocaust Memorial Museum shares stories and artifacts

Barbara Stark-Nemon, special to the WJN

On Tuesday, October 17, Scott Miller, director of Curatorial Affairs at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, gave a crowd of 50 people at the home of Joanna and Jay Abramson, of West Bloomfield, a rare opportunity to learn about the Museum's dedicated efforts to collect and preserve artifacts related to the Holocaust. With a "Rescue the Evidence" initiative at its center, the Museum has established one of the world's foremost collections of documentary evidence of the Holocaust, and continues to acquire, preserve and make accessible a collection that includes artifacts, photos, letters, documents, diaries, books, oral histories, art, film, and music. In his opening remarks, Miller reminded the audience that while the primary purpose of preserving the evidence is historical and educational, the collections and exhibits and scholarship also serve as a comparison and object lesson about genocides everywhere.

Miller presented five stories derived from artifacts in the Museum's collections. In one story, Miller presented an image of a prototype of the Israeli flag and then told a story of a passenger ship, the *President Warfield*, which originally carried travelers between Baltimore, MD and Norfolk, VA. In 1947, with a crew of mostly American Jews, and flying under a Guatemalan flag, the ship left Baltimore, sailed to France and took on more than 4,000 passengers—Holocaust survivors from Displaced Persons Camps in Europe who desperately wanted to go to Palestine as part of the Aliyah Bet movement. As the ship approached Haifa, intent on breaching the British blockade, and in full view of international journalists, the Guatemalan flag was lowered, and the white flag with the Star of David was raised. The ship, renamed *Exodus* became an important symbol of the struggle to create the State of Israel, its story the basis of Leon Uris's novel *Exodus*. The flag is now part of the USHMM collection. While nearly all the artifacts in the "Rescue the Evidence" initiative are donated, some, like this flag, are purchased.

Mother and her children

In a second heartbreaking story, Miller showed a picture calendar that a young father from Holland created for the baby son that he'd arranged to hide with a righteous Christian family. Each square had a drawing and Hebrew caption for a life cycle event that the young man and his wife anticipated for their son, but would never see or share. The couple were deported and perished in a concentration camp. The child and the calendar survived.

Miller's other stories were equally compelling. The artifacts included a goodbye letter to her husband from a mother who wouldn't allow her disabled child to face the death camp alone, and a detailed map of Treblinka, drawn by one of the only survivors of that camp, a document that became very important in later war crimes trials. Another fascinating rescue was a complete copy of the Talmud, printed by the United States Army for Jews in the displaced persons camps.

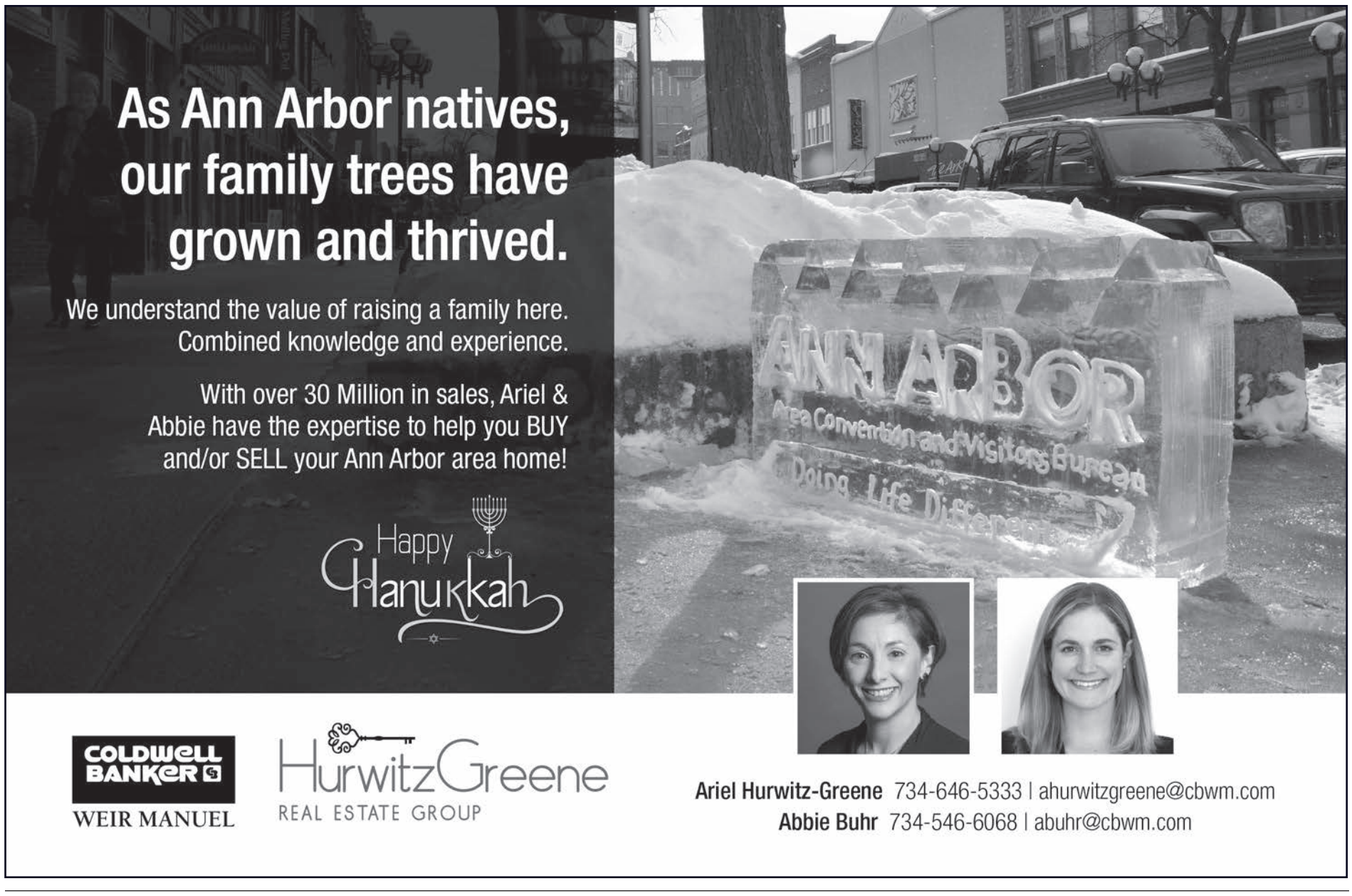
Finally, Miller summarized the process an individual or family would go through to donate items to the Museum, and how they are preserved and archived for exhibit and research use. Individuals who believe they have items of interest can contact one of the curators at curator@ushmm.org or call (202) 488-2649.

A curator will usually begin with a phone call to the potential donor to learn the story of the family or circumstance behind the items and then determine if the item(s) is appropriate for the museum's collection. If the family or individual is ready to donate at that time, the items are sent to the museum, and the donor signs a Deed of Gift. Then the collection is reviewed by a conservator, and rehoused for storage. This is all accomplished at the David and Fela Shapell Family Collections, Conservation, and Research Center, the Museum's brand new state of the art archive. A catalog record is prepared and for larger collections, a Finding Aid is created. With permission of the donor(s), the collection is then digitized, to be put on the web as part of the catalog record. This process takes a number of months and includes further conservation review, special handling because of the fragile nature of many of the materials, and IT review of the images for quality control.

Miller also shared the ways in which the US Museum collaborates with local Holocaust museums around the country and the world. He recognized Rabbi Eli Mayerfeld, CEO of the Detroit Holocaust Memorial Museum, and Cheryl Guyer, director of development, who attended the event.

Nicole Bela, of the Midwest Region of USHMM, concluded the presentation by describing ways attendees could become involved with the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, including participation in next year's 25th anniversary celebration of the founding of USHMM, and the many 2nd and 3rd generation survivors groups. She described a mission to D.C. that will take place in November. Several attendees expressed interest in a Michigan mission to the Museum in the future. (contact Joanna@abramsonlawoffices.com)

Ann Arbor's Evie Lichter, formerly a docent at the Museum, captured the response of many who attended the event. "Every personal article such as a piece of clothing, a doll, a handwritten letter is both heartwarming and gut wrenching. Telling the story of the Holocaust in this intimate, personal way is so powerful. The Museum is remarkable." ■



A week of giving – supporting our community through the Annual Campaign

by Eileen Freed, interim executive director, Jewish Federatio of Greater Ann Arbor

The Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor announces "A Week of Giving" to take place during Chanukah, December 12-20.

U-M President Mark Schlissel (left) with Federation Board President Neal Blatt

The Week of Giving will provide community members numerous avenues for helping foster and sustain Jewish life through the mechanism of the Jewish Federation's 2018 Annual Campaign. Community members will receive email, mail, social media and—yes,phone calls—about the impact of the important work of the Federation and its partners. Donors will be encouraged to make their 2018 campaign pledges by the end of this year.

"This Chanukah, we will have the opportunity to hear about the tremendous impact Federation makes in our community and take action through our pledges to continue that impact in the year to come" says Babette Levy Daskin, 2018 campaign co-chair.

Match for new and increased gifts

To motivate individuals to join this communal effort or to increase their support, generous donors collectively raised a $46,000 challenge fund to match all new and increased gifts dollar for dollar. This means that a new gift of $180 will result in $360 to help Jews in Ann Arbor facing financial emergencies or to aid impoverished families in Ukraine. An increase of $200 will provide $400 toward raising the next generation of Jewish children or enabling our grandparents to dsaexperience the comfort and familiarity of Jewish life in local senior living facilities.

The Annual Campaign is the Ann Arbor Jewish community's single largest fundraiser. It is the way in which we ensure that we fulfill the age-old value of communal tzedakah. Together the community is able to maximize our strengths and ensure that no Jew in distress falls through the cracks and no need goes un-addressed, while constantly striving for a robust, vibrant Jewish community.

Annual Campaign impact

Caring for those in need in our community.

- 599 Jewish Family Services (JFS) clients receiving financial assistance, crisis case management and eviction prevention.
- 580 lunches to older adults through the JCC's Lunch & Learn program and an additional 698 older adults receiving social service support through JFS.
- 1,500 households receiving food aid, including Kosher, Halal and medically-required items from the JFS specialty food pantry.

It is a fact of life that unexpected crises happen and the natural course of life impacts the ability to live independently. Often, people who are used to contributing to their community or sustaining their family find themselves needing to rely on others. The communal campaign provides assistance through JFS to fellow community members facing financial emergencies, enables our national partners to mobilize quickly to address immediate and long-term needs of communities facing natural and man-made disasters, and provides support to the more senior members of the community who wish to remain in their homes and stay active in the community. This is what it means to be part of a Federated community.

Student Exchange group at Moshav Nahalal

Members of Jewish Young Professionals doing community service at Food Gatherers

Awakening identities and ensuring a Jewish future

- 300 Jewish camp experiences through Camp Ra'anana, Camp Gan Israel and scholarships for Jewish overnight camps.
- 61 students learning to speak Hebrew at Hebrew Day School and Keshet.
- 30 teens developing a connection and relationship to Israel through the Federation's Nahalal Student Exchange and Israel Program Scholarships.
- 900 Shabbat dinners for students at University of Michigan and Eastern Michigan University Hillels

A strong, positive Jewish identity is something we endeavor to pass on to the next generation. However, with today's competing interests and attractions, communal partners play an increasingly significant role in assisting parents in their efforts to connect their children with their rich Jewish heritage. Here in Ann Arbor, a range of Federation-supported programs enable meaningful experiences for Jewish families. Our donors are our partners in fostering a life-long connection to Jewish heritage. This is what it means to ensure the future of our community.

Caring for our global community

- 10 hours of homecare (cleaning, bathing, cooking services) a week for 15 of the poorest Jews in the former Soviet Union for an entire year. This project of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee preserves dignity, physical health and emotional well-being for those who, but for us, would be alone and forgotten.
- 20,600 pounds of fresh vegetables and 3,600 hot meals provided by Leket-Israel for vulnerable populations in Israel.
- 209 Jewish and Arab Israeli students studying together as equals at the Hand-in-Hand Galilee school.

These are just some examples of what is being accomplished by Federation partners on our behalf. From enabling Holocaust survivors to find dignity and comfort in their old age to rescuing Jews trying to escape from lives of poverty, discrimination and fear; from fighting food insecurity to helping Jews around the world create lasting connections to Jewish life – our donors are our partners in making sure no Jew, anywhere, gets left behind. This is what it means to be part of a global community.

Together, we are powerful

As a community, we have the collective power to awaken identities, revitalize communities, comfort those in need and foster and sustain Jewish life in Ann Arbor, Israel and around the world.

During the Week of Giving, and throughout the Annual Campaign, please join your fellow community members in increasing your support for building and sustaining a strong, caring global and local community by making a pledge at www.jewishannarbor.org/donate or by calling (734) 677-0100 x228. Payment on 2018 Annual Campaign pledges may be paid up through December 2018. ■

Havdalahween was magical!

Reva Berman, special to the WJN

The Jewish Young Professionals (JYP) of Ann Arbor gathered together for an evening of Halloween fun at the Havdalahween event held late October. The event was BYOP (bring your own pumpkin) with carving kits and snacks provided. After the pumpkins were all carved, they were arranged in a circle with a candle placed inside. In the dark surrounded by the glow of the pumpkins, the group held a Havdalah service. The event was a collaboration of The Jewish Federation of Ann Arbor and Moishe House Without Walls.

To learn more about JYP's upcoming events like bar nights, a Chanukah party, and more, visit the JYP Facebook page at Jewish Young Professionals of Ann Arbor. Jewish Young Professionals of Ann Arbor is a young adult program sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor.

Caption: After carving their pumpkins, the group gathered for a beautiful Havdalah service. ■

Federation Main Event filled with laughter, food and community

Max Glick, special to the WJN

On Monday, November 6, over 400 members of the Ann Arbor Jewish community came together for the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor's 17th Annual Main Event. Guests were welcomed with bright fall colors and delicious food from guest chef, Einat Admony's cookbook, *Balaboosta,* prepared by caterer Simply Scrumptious. Chef Admony and comedian Joel Chasnoff worked together to create a unique act, which combined Chasnoff's comedy with a live cooking demonstration by Admony.

The Main Event, this year chaired by Laurie and Jayson Greenberg, and Eva and Ed Solomon, is Federation's largest event of the year and offers the community the opportunity to support the Annual Campaign. "Jayson and I were honored to be asked to co-chair with Eva and Ed," Laurie stated. "This annual event is extra special because it includes all the Jewish organizations around Ann Arbor. It was great to see friends from all over the area come together to enjoy a night of food, laughter and fun!"

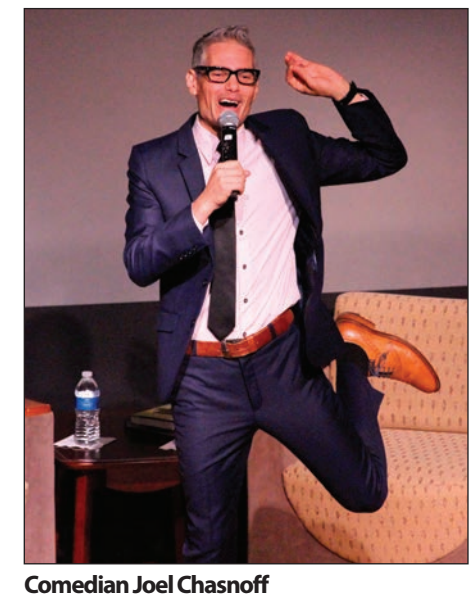
The event was generously sponsored by the the Ford Motor Company Fund. Additional photos from the evening can be viewed on the Federation Facebook page and at www.jewishannarbor.org. ■

From left to right, Main Event co-chairs, Jayson Greenberg, Laurie Greenberg, guest Chef Einat Admony, guest Comedian Joel Chasnoff, and co-chairs Eva Solomon and Ed Solomon

A record high number of young professionals and graduate students attended this year's event

The Main Event is always a great opportunity to catch up with old friends

Two-time *Chopped* champion and Israeli Chef Einat Admony



Comedian Joel Chasnoff

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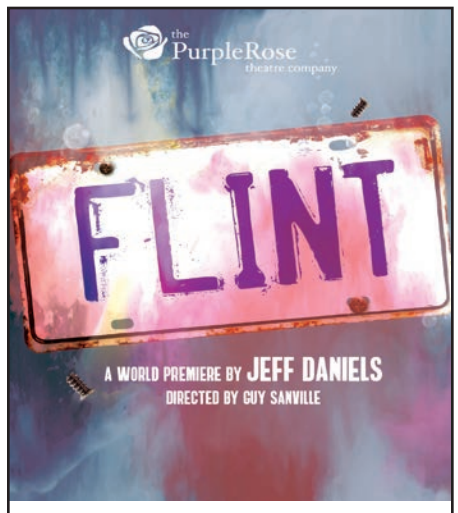

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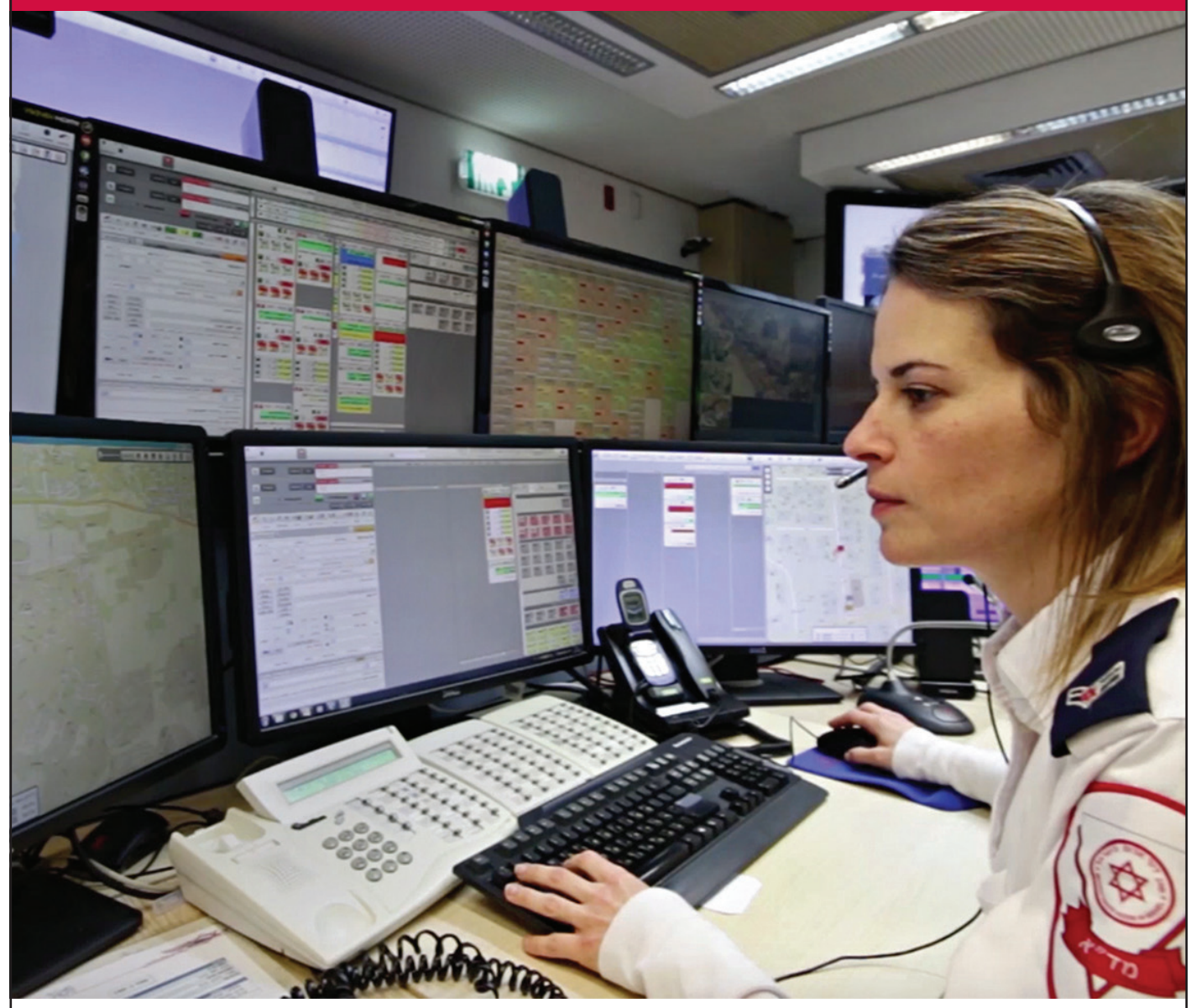

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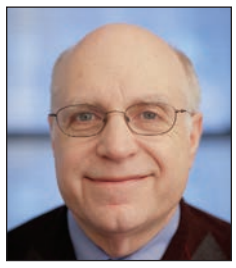
Human rights, a Jewish imperative

Rabbi Robert Dobrusin, special to the WJN

In his inaugural address in 1961, President John F Kennedy asserted that one issue that motivated our founding fathers was still a critical issue around the globe. He referred to the belief "that the rights of man come not from the generosity of the state but from the hand of God."

That is certainly a beautiful statement. But does it reflect Jewish tradition and thought?



Rabbi Robert Dobrusin

In our tradition, we talk more about "obligations" than we do about "rights." Judaism focuses on the principle that we have an obligation to God and to our fellow human beings to act in a particular manner. Our faith is based on Jews having a "*hiyyuv,*" an "obligation," to observe ritual traditions and an obligation to act ethically and morally in this world.

So, it is true in one sense that the concept of "human rights" might be considered somewhat foreign to Judaism, to be replaced by "human obligations."

But, in fact, it is not foreign at all.

By following through on those obligations, we insure the sacred rights of others. If we are obligated not to murder, it is because another individual has a right to live. If we are obligated to give tzedakah, it is because everyone has a right to eat or clothe themselves. If we have an obligation to take care of the earth and the environment, it is because our children and grandchildren have the right to live a more secure, healthy life.

So, the focus of human rights work in the name of the Jewish people and as a reflection of our tradition is also, in itself an obligation. I believe that alongside learning Torah and observing rituals, working for the betterment of the world and for human rights must be a critical part of our agenda in the 21st century.

On December 10, 1948, the United Nations General Assembly ratified a document entitled the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The first sentence from the Preamble to the Declaration states that: "The inherent dignity and… the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.

This statement could have been taken directly from our sacred texts. The Mishna teaches that the story of Creation from the Torah is meant to teach us that even though we are all different, we are stamped with the same "die" by the Holy One. Each of us carries with us an equal portion of the image of God and no one can see himself or herself as inherently superior to any other individual.

This idea is the foundation for the declaration and the inspiration for all of us who work for human rights at home and around the world and do so in the name of our Jewish tradition.

Each year, December 10 is observed as Human Rights Day and, in recent years, the Shabbat near that date is designated as Human Rights Shabbat. This designation gives us the opportunity to commit ourselves once again to striving for justice and dignity for all as we rest and consider our relationship with God and the world

Human Rights Shabbat was an idea conceived by T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights, an organization which dedicates itself to educating and encouraging all of us to be more sensitive to and more committed to working for human rights as a reflection of our covenant and our tradition. On that Shabbat, rabbis around the country will deliver sermons and teach Torah on these commitments.

I have recently ended my service on the board of T'ruah and continue to be proud of the work the organization does. In this country, T'ruah has focused on many issues including slavery and human trafficking highlighted by its alliance with the Coalition of Imokalee workers dedicated to improving the working and living conditions of workers in the tomato fields of Florida. T'ruah has also addressed the issue of the horrendous overuse of solitary confinement and mass incarceration in general and has stood against bigotry in all forms in this nation.

Truah's work in Israel and the West Bank continues as well, as it speaks out for human rights for all Israelis, works on behalf of Palestinians and Bedouin, and seeks to ensure that Israel based charities are clear on where their funds are being used. You can find more information on T'ruah's website, Truah.org, and follow the work of so many other organizations which are dedicated to human rights work. It is such a vital piece of our mission as a people and a faith.

As proud as I am of the work of T'ruah, I also see so much happening here in our local Jewish community that reflects these same ideals. The vital and inspiring work done on behalf of refugees by Jewish Family Service staff and volunteers is a reflection of our commitment to the dignity of all. The commitment shown by our synagogues to those in need by hosting the "rotating shelter" of the Ann Arbor Shelter Association and by studying and supporting the concept of sanctuary for immigrants is a reflection of our concern for the safety and health of all in our society.

As we hear rhetoric in our nation which places personal interests first and denies our responsibility to care for others, the actions of individuals and organizations to work for the rights of all is so beautiful and so necessary.

I work as a rabbi for human rights because the Torah teaches: "Do the right and the Good" (Deuteronomy 6:18). We can not separate our obligation to this commandment from our ritual and spiritual obligations. To build a better world is, in fact, the foundation and the goal of all that we believe. ■

Beautifying the mitzvah of Chanukah

Rabbi Aharon Goldstein, special to the WJN

This year Chanukah will begin on Tuesday, December 12, after nightfall. In the mitzvah of observing Chanukah we find something unique—not found in any other mitzvah of the Torah. In all other mitzvahs, there is a basic level of observance—that is, simply doing what is physically required to be considered successfully performing that mitzvah. Beyond this, there is another level called beautifying or glorifying the mitzvah. For example, we just had the holiday of Sukkot. Regarding the four species of that holiday, we can have the absolute minimum size and quality of specimens or we can have larger, more beautiful examples of the species. So we have the basic performance of the mitzvah and we have the beautification of the mitzvah.

Rabbi Aharon Goldstein

During Chanukah, however, we have a unique example of beautification within beautification. The basic mitzvah of Chanukah is each home lighting one candle each night. To beautify the mitzvah, every member of the household could light one candle each night. At the next level there is beautification within beautification. Not only does each person light their own candle, but each person in the home can have their own menorah and can light an additional candle each night as the holiday progresses — as most of us do (one candle on the first night, two candles on the second night, etc.) thus not only beautifying the mitzvah beyond the basic requirement but beautifying the beautification of the mitzvah. This opportunity is unique to the holiday of Chanukah.

Another unique quality of Chanukah is that nearly everyone goes beyond the basic level of observance of the mitzvah by beautifying the mitzvah. Many go even further and beautify within beautification. No other mitzvah has this widespread practice. Most mitzvahs are performed at the basic level. Some are beautified by some people. During Chanukah, uniquely, the vast majority do more than the basic requirement by lighting multiple candles and increasing the numbers commensurate to the progression of the days of the holiday.

So why does Chanukah have this unique status of nearly universal beautification and beautification within beautification of the mitzvah?

The world is operated by God. There are three levels used by God to relate to our world. One level is described as natural. For example, the sun rising in the morning, the gardens and fields growing, everything according to nature is the natural relationship of God to the world.

The second way God relates to the world is that from time to time a miracle occurs. A miracle is an event that breaks the rules of nature. The manna in the desert would be an example.

The third way is a miracle beyond miracles. When God wants to show extra love to the Jewish people He makes a miracle within a miracle. Bearing this in mind we will answer the question of the uniqueness of Chanukah.

During Chanukah we find two levels of miracles. The first level, as we say in our prayers, those that were strong fell into the hands of the weak, and those in the majority fell into the hands of the minority. This goes against the usual natural order of things and refers to the war of the Chanukah miracle when the Jews repelled the Syrian-Greeks. The Jews were a weaker and smaller army but, miraculously, they vanquished the militarily superior Greeks. Then, in addition to the miraculous winning of the war, God added another miracle within the miracle. Here we pick up the well-known story of the discovery of the single cruse of sanctified oil (miraculously spared from the deliberate desecration efforts of the Greeks) and it burned for eight nights (the time required to ritually process more oil to the level of sanctified oil suitable for use in the holy menorah in the holy temple) even though it was normally, naturally, only enough for one night.

So how did the Jewish people come to merit these miracles within miracles? In general the Torah tells us that we obtain natural blessings from God by studying Torah and observing mitzvahs. The end of the book of Leviticus says that if we go in God's ways by following His mitzvahs He will give us the rain in the proper time. In other words, He will give us what we need. This is natural.

However, if we go beyond the basic level of obeying the commandments and, rather, beautify our performance of the mitzvahs, God will perform miracles for the Jewish people. God blesses us, not only within the bounds of Nature, but also beyond those bounds — with miracles. Further, if a person goes beyond beautifying the mitzvahs and is even willing to give their life for the sake of the mitzvahs in total dedication and self-sacrifice, then God performs miracles within miracles. This is what happened during the original Chanukah time. The Greeks were trying to Hellenize the Jews and persuade them to go away from mitzvahs. Not only were the Jews willing to be strong and resist the Greeks, they were willing to give up their lives to preserve the Jewish way of life of Torah and mitzvahs. This created a very dangerous environment in which to live. Not only did the Jews perform the mitzvahs at a basic level, but, they beautified their performance of mitzvahs even to the point of self-sacrifice.

Therefore, in response to their love and dedication to God, God helped them to win the war and also gave them another miracle of the cruse of oil and then a further miracle of the oil burning for eight nights.

This is why today Chanukah is celebrated in such a way as previously mentioned — namely, beautifying within beautification. This is how it originally happened with Chanukah. The Jewish people gave themselves over to God beyond the natural course of things — they gave-up their lives rather than be torn from God's ways. The theme of Chanukah is to be dedicated to God beyond normal, natural inclinations to the point of giving ourselves totally — even to the point of self-sacrifice — to stay together with God's plan for us. ■

One Candle is mitzvah strong

Jessica L. Gillespie, special to the WJN

The community is invited to participate in the fifth annual One Candle for Tzedakah at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor on Thursday, December 14, 6–8 p.m. The core of this annual event has been to give rather than receive for one night of the Chanukah holiday, as well as to celebrate the festival of lights as a community. This year participants will have the opportunity to have a deep and immediate impact in the local community.

The Ann Arbor JCC is again partnering with Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County to help those in need during this Chanukah season. JFS has been at the fore of relocating refugee families from many countries. Despite their hard work and dedicated efforts, many of the families are still left with needs that neither JFS nor the families are able to meet. This season, the refugee families that participants will "adopt" come from Syria, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Iraq, Iran, Turkey, and Eritrea.

Participants may wonder why tzedakah is the key focus of this event. Tzedakah is one of many mitzvot. According to myjewishlearning.com, "Mitzvah literally means 'commandment,'…. The mitzvot that deal with feeding the poor, acting kindly to the stranger, or observing the Sabbath are much more significant in the Jewish tradition than mere divine suggestions on how to be good." These complex and reflective ideas must be learned over time, starting as children. Ideas need to be shared in ways children can understand. In addition, adults are faced with the challenge to pass these values on to the next generation. Programs like One Candle for Tzedakah are tools to help.

One Candle for Tzedakah is one way to help teach the value of giving to those in need. To make that happen, JFS will share with the Ann Arbor JCC a list of the genders and ages of the children (hidden identities, of course) in the refugee families, and possibly some of the items the children themselves are hoping to receive. The J will then hang that information in the form of tags from its PVC menorah in the atrium of the building for participants to take. The information will also be available on the J's website for those unable to come to the building. Information on adoptees will be available beginning Monday, November 27, 2017. Anyone interested in adopting one or more children but who are unable to attend the celebratory event can still choose a tag or child online and drop off the gifts to the J prior to December 14, 2017 with the tag or identifying information attached.

The J encourages parents to bring their children with and involve them in helping choose the child or children they would like to "adopt" for the holiday season. The goal is for families to shop together for the gifts that will be donated to those children, and asks that gifts total no more than $30 per child. This will help participant families connect with the mitzvah of tzedakah on a practical and meaningful level. Participants are asked to remember to keep the chosen tags so that they can attach the tags to the gifts for the adopted child.

In addition to the adopt-a-child element, the community will experience a Chanukah celebration adding to the joy of shopping for children who would otherwise not have a joyful holiday themselves. The celebration begins with games and a giant gift-wrapping party. The J will provide several gift wrapping stations to wrap the donated gifts, as well as a make-a-card station to create "welcome to Michigan" cards to go along with the gifts. Other festivities will include Chanukah themed games and dinner, catered by Karan Balmer. The community will also join together for a Chanukah candle lighting and present the wrapped gifts to JFS representatives. Finally, participants will be entertained by a performance by The Ring of Steel Action Theater and Stunt Group.

The cost of One Candle for Tzedakah is $12 per person or $30 per household for current paid members of the J. For guests of the J, the cost is $15 per person or $35 per household. A household includes up to two adults and children under 21 living at the same address. To register or to request more information, visit jccannarbor.org or contact Jessica Gillespie, family programs coordinator, at jessicagillespie@jccannarbor.org or (734) 971-0990. ■

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= they know their children will grow up in a safe community away from desolation and turmoil.

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Beth Israel Congregation December and January activities

The Book Smugglers, with author David Fishman.

Sunday, December 3, 6:30 p.m.

The Book Smugglers by David Fishman, Ph.D., is the nearly unbelievable story of ghetto residents who rescued thousands of rare books and manuscripts—first from the Nazis and then from the Soviets—by hiding them on their bodies, burying them in bunkers, and smuggling them across borders. Fishman is a professor of Modern Jewish History at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York and the foremost scholar of the Vilna Ghetto. This program is sponsored by Beth Israel Congregation and the Jewish Theological Seminary

Family Chanukah Celebration with Jeff the Magician

Wednesday, Dec. 13, 5 p.m.

Participants are encouraged to bring their own hanukkiah to light up the night. The evening will start off with a magic act, followed by candle lighting and a Chanukah dinner (fish sticks, chili, latkes and dessert) and conclude with Chanukah songs. For all ages. No cost for children. $8.00 for adults. RSVP (734) 665-9897, or office@bethisrael-aa.org.

Latke and Libations

Sunday, December 17, 6 p.m.

A fun filled night of fresh latkes, tons of applesauce and sour cream, lighting the hanukkiah, music, and more. Participants are asked to bring their own libations (beer, wine, spirits, etc.) This event is for ages 21 and up, and is free of charge. Dinner is provided. RSVP by December 12 at office@bethisrael-aa.org.

Overnight Homeless Shelter Volunteers Needed

Monday, December 18–Tuesday, December 26

Each winter, Beth Israel Congregation participates in the Shelter Association of Washtenaw County's rotating shelter program for one week and hosts up to 30 overflow guests per night from the main shelter on 312 West Huron Street. Beth Israel is responsible for providing 3–4 volunteers staying overnight, and 3–4 drivers each morning and evening to drive the guests to and from Beth Israel. In the morning the guests are driven to St. Andrew's Church for the Breakfast Program.

The overnight shelter is a great way to introduce children to the world of mitzvot and community service. Older children, significant others, non-Beth Israel friends and relatives are all welcome to volunteer.

Online signup is available by visiting the Beth Israel website at www.bethisrael-aa.org under "events" then "event sign up." Offline signup and additional information is available by contacting Rebecca Kanner at (734) 994-5717 or Diane Wilson at (734) 995-5411.

Beth Israel Family Mitzvah Day

Sunday, January 14, 9:30 a.m.

Family Mitzvah Day is one of the highlights of Beth Israel's programming year. Families with children in grades K-8 will gather at Beth Israel at 9:00 am. After an opening program, families work together on projects at Beth Israel and at other locations throughout the community. Past partners for Mitzvah Day have included Jewish Family Services, Ann Arbor Fire Department, Ronald McDonald House, Alpha House, Kulanu, Kosher Troops, Mott Hospital, and American Red Cross.

Mitzvah Day is held annually and emphasizes the Jewish connection to Martin Luther King Junior Day. For more information or to register for this year's program, email sklein@bethisrael-aa.org. Family registrations are due by January 5.

Sweatshirt Shabbat

Saturday, January 20, 9:30 a.m.

Everyone is encouraged to come dressed in their favorite sweatshirt (school, camp, university, tourist location etc.) for a warm and friendly Shabbat morning service, followed by a cholent plus other foods Kiddush luncheon. There is no charge for the luncheon.

Quiz Night

Saturday, January 20, 7 p.m.

This 11th annual Beth Israel Quiz Night promises to be another fun competitive evening for adults. This social program is a team based multi-media trivia game. Whether one comes with their own team or forms one at the game, participants are sure to have a great time as they work together to answer trivia questions, decipher puzzles, and complete other challenges in order to earn the title of Beth Israel's Trivia Master. The cost is $10 per person, which can be paid at the door. You can register by contacting Beth at 665-9897 or office@bethisrael-aa.org.

Volunteer Appreciation Brunch

Sunday, January 21, 10:30 a.m.

Shrina Eadeh, the Director of the Resettlement Program at JFS will be the featured speaker at this brunch which also honors Beth Israel's present, future, and past volunteers.

The brunch is free, but RSVPs are requested. Contact the Beth Israel office by Tuesday, January 16. This program is sponsored by the Social Action Committee.

Tot Family Bowling

Sunday, January 28, 3 p.m.

An afternoon of bowling, socializing, and snacks at Revel and Roll. Tot Family Bowling afternoon is a chance for young families to meet and socialize with one another while enjoying the lively, fun atmosphere of Revel and Roll. Participants will pay for bowling fees and Beth Israel will provide snacks. Contact Sarah Klein at sklein@bethisrael-aa.org by January 21 for more information and to RSVP.

Adult Hebrew Classes (Winter Term)

Beth Israel Congregation and Temple Beth Emeth offer Adult Hebrew classes at varying levels of difficulty, in both Biblical and conversational Hebrew. Everyone in the community is welcome to join these classes, taught by Hebrew instructors, Malli Holoshitz, Ilan Rosenberg or Milka Eliav. The tuition fee is $180 for members of either congregation, $200 for non-members, and $50 for full-time college students. The 12-week second semester will begin in late January. For registration information, contact Cindy Saper at (734) 665-9897.

Shabbat Limmud

Saturdays, December 9, January 13, 9 a.m.

Adults are invited for Torah study over coffee and cake. The discussions, led by Rabbi Dobrusin, are informal, lively and participatory. The study begins with traditional texts and participants add their own thoughts on the Torah, Haftarah portion of the week, or other traditional texts.

Lunch & Learn Series

Wednesday, December 6 and 14, Noon – 1:15 p.m.

Garfunkel Schteingart Activities Center (2010 Washtenaw Avenue)

Rabbi Robert Dobrusin and Rabbi Kim Blumenthal lead informal discussions on current topics. Participants are invited to bring a dairy lunch. Beverages and snacks will be provided.

Tot Shabbat and Mini Minyan

Saturdays, Dec. 9, Jan. 13, 27, 11:15 a.m.

Tot Shabbat is Beth Israel's special Shabbat morning program for preschoolers and their parents with songs, stories, and prayers, plus the Shabbat "Mystery Box." Tot Shabbat is led by Beth Israel's Program Director Sarah Klein, and Davey Rosen, associate director of Michigan Hillel.

Mini Minyan is Beth Israel's service for elementary school age children. The service includes Shabbat prayers and fun educational activities. Mini Minyan is led by Sarah Klein and Kayla Chinitz, a current University of Michigan student. For more information, contact Sarah Klein at sklein@bethisrael-aa.org. ■

December and January events at Temple Beth Emeth

Sooji Min, special to the WJN

Step Up Shabbat for 1-5 grades

Fridays, 5:45 p.m., TBE Chapel
December 1, 8, 15 and 29 and January 5, 12 and 19

TBE's new Shabbat experience for children in first through fifth grades that will take place parallel to Tot Shabbat. Rotating services led by Rabbi Josh Whinston, Cantor Regina Lambert-Hayut and Rabbi Daniel Alter.

Shabbat Achat: One Community Shabbat

Friday, December 22 and January 26, TBE Sanctuary, 6:30 p.m.
Dinner for Shabbat Achat, 6 p.m.

Shabbat Achat, led by Rabbi Whinston and Cantor Hayut, takes place on the fourth Friday of each month. Join in for macaroni and cheese, fish sticks, applesauce, and a salad bar immediately preceding the service. Dinner is just $5 per person. Buy a punch card ahead of time for a discounted price. Punch cards are available in the TBE office. Note the 6:30 p.m. start time for services on Shabbat Achat.

Families with Young Children (FYC): Tot Shabbat Service

Fridays, 5:45 p.m., TBE Sanctuary
December 1, 8, 15 and 29 and January 5, 12 and 19
5:45 p.m. | Tot (0–5 year olds) Shabbat Services with Rabbi Whinston and Cantor Hayut
6:15 p.m. Dinner for Tot Shabbat | 6:45 p.m. Shira Service

All of your favorite songs led by TBE's tot team, Cantor Hayut and Rabbi Whinston.

Join in for macaroni and cheese, fish sticks, applesauce, and a salad bar immediately following the short service. Dinner is just $5 per person. Buy a punch card ahead of time for a discounted price. Punch cards are available in the TBE office.

Shalom Gever/Jewish Karate

Fridays, 4 p.m.
December 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 and January 5, 12, 19 and 26

Health, Healing and Self-Defense. Try out this unique martial arts instruction including lessons in how to live a healthy lifestyle, be energetic, do well in school and learn anti-bullying self-defense. 12-week semesters for belt advancement. Drop-in when schedules permit. Enrollment is open for students and adults. Shalom Gever is taught by Rabbi Peter Gluck, 5th Degree Black Belt and martial arts instructor for 21 years. Contact the Temple Beth Emeth office at (734) 665-4744 or Rabbi Gluck, info@shalomgever.org, for more registration information.

Caring Community Comfort Food: Meals in Times of Illness, Loss and Celebration

Thursday, December 7, noon and Sunday, January 7, 2 p.m.

Each month, volunteers will prepare meal components that will be frozen in the TBE kitchen. Volunteers are needed to purchase food (reimbursed by our Caring Community Fund), prepare meals, and make deliveries to congregants' homes as needed. To sign up, email Cantor Emerita Annie Rose, cantorannie@gmail.com.

continued on next page

TBE events, continued from previous page

Weekly Lunch and Learn
Fridays, TBE Adult Lounge, Noon
December 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29; January 5, 12, 19 and 26

Rabbi Whinston meets on Fridays for an informal discussion about religion. Sessions are open to the entire community. Feel free to bring a lunch.

Torah Study
Saturdays, 8:50 a.m.
December 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30; January 6, 13, 20 and 27

Join in for this weekly discussion of the Torah in portion led by Rabbi Whinston.

Caregivers Support Group
Sunday, December 17, 4 p.m., TBE

Being a caregiver for a family member or friend has its own unique stressors. Sharing issues, insights, and helpful information with others in a supportive group can make this experience easier to manage.

Chapel Service
Saturdays, 10 a.m., TBE Chapel
December 9, 23 and 30; January 6, 20 and 27

Join in for this Saturday Shabbat service, led by Rabbi Whinston or Cantor Hayut.

Women's Torah Study
Mondays, 7 p.m.
December 4, 11 and 18; January 8 and 22

An in-depth study and lively discussion of the week's Torah portion led by Cantor Regina Hayut. The group will explore various passages from the portion looking at several translations and commentaries from a variety of scholars from Talmudic times to the modern day. No Hebrew knowledge is necessary to participate in the discussion. For questions, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org.

Men's Torah Study
Thursday, December 28, 7:30 p.m.

A men's Torah discussion group, led by Rabbi Whinston, on the 4th Thursday of each month. Participants will find their way as men by wrestling with text. For more information, contact Bill Parkus at parkus@comcast.net.

Jewish Mindfulness Meditation Sit (self-guided)
Thursdays, 1 p.m., TBE Chapel.
December 7, 14 and 21; January 11, 18 and 25

For practitioners of all levels. Intention and instruction followed by 30-minute silent meditation. Facilitated by SooJi Min and Quyen Epstein-Ngo. SooJi Min is TBE's executive director. She completed a 16-month mindfulness teacher-training program sponsored by the Institute for Jewish Spirituality and the Awakened Heart Project. Quyen Epstein-Ngo is a therapist who holds a joint doctoral degree in Clinical Psychology and Women's Studies. One of the areas she specializes in is working with adolescents, adults, and couples on issues of faith and spirituality. Contact SooJi Min with questions, at (734) 665-4744.

Spirituality Book Club
Tuesdays, December 12 and January 9, 7:30 p.m.
Thursdays, December 14 and January 11, noon
Led by Annie Rose, TBE's cantor emerita

Join in for the new season of TBE's Spirituality Book Club! This year the group will be reading six books over the course of nine months. Feel free to come to the Tuesday night sessions or the Thursday afternoon sessions. Registration is not required, but it is helpful for planning to know how many people may come. RSVP to cantorannie@gmail.com.

WTBE Fiber Arts Group
Mondays, 7–9 p.m., offsite
December 4 and 18 and January 1 and 15

Anyone interested in Fiber Arts: knitting, crocheting, and crafts are welcome. This group will be contributing to the Israeli Peace quilt. All materials for the project provided by WTBE. Contact Bobbi Heilveil for details at (734) 276-5741 or bobbiheilveil@gmail.com.

WTBE Chankuah Bazaar
Saturday, December 2, 9 a.m.–2 p.m.
Sunday, December 3, 3–7 p.m.

Everything needed for Chanukah and more! Gelt, candles, dreidels, menorahs, gift wrap, toys, cards, kitchen items, music, jewelry and unique gifts.

Brotherhood Annual Blood Drive
Saturday, December 9, 8:45 a.m. – 2:45 p.m.

To schedule an appointment, log onto redcrossblood.org with sponsor code: tbe.

Chanukah How To WTBE
Sunday, December 10, 5:30-7 p.m.

WTBE is sponsoring a Chanukah holiday workshop. During this fun-filled session, history, common foods and customs will be reviewed.

DAMES Dinner WTBE
Monday, December 11, 6–9 p.m.
RSVP to Ronnie Shapiro, ronnieshapiro1@gmail.com, by December 4.

Brotherhood Latke Dinner
Friday, December 15, 6–7:30 p.m.

Annual congregation dinner sponsored by Brotherhood. Tickets can be purchased by calling the TBE office, (734) 665-4744.

TBE Chanukah Service
Friday, December 15, 7:30-9 p.m.

Be sure to bring your menorah and candles.

R and R Annual Chanukah Party
Saturday, December 16, 6:30-9 p.m., Chapel Hill Clubhouse

If you are over 50, like to party, eat and celebrate Chanukah – come to this annual potluck. Bring a dish to pass, $5, and a gift to exchange (white elephants included!) RSVP, stating dish type, to Miriam Shaw, mbs1115@yahoo.com.

Caregivers Support Group
Sunday, December 17, 4–5 p.m.

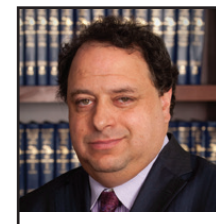
Being a care-giver for a family member or friend has its own unique stressors. Sharing issues, insights, and helpful information with others in a supportive group can make this experience easier to manage. To sign up, email Cantor Emerita Annie Rose, cantorannie@gmail.com.

TBE Annual Movie
Monday, December 25, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Join TBE for our annual December 25 Movie Event. This year TBE presents *Hook*. Regular concessions will be for sale. Call Temple Beth Emeth at (734) 664-4744 with any questions.

Tu B'Shevat Tutorial
Thursday, January 25, 7:30-9 p.m.

TBE is holding a Tu B'Shevat holiday workshop. During this tutorial session, history, common foods and customs will be discussed. ■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FRANKEL EVENTS
December 2017 and January 2018

Photo Credit: James Reslier-Wells

Reflecting on Politics, History and Half a Century at Michigan
Zvi Gitelman, University of Michigan
December 4, Panel: 3 pm, Lecture, 5 pm
A Century of Ambivalence: Politics and the Jews
Anna Shternshis, David Fishman, Todd Endelman
Rackham Assembly Hall, 915 E. Washington St.

Classical Numismatic Group, Inc.
http://www.cngcoins.com

Money in Classical Jewish Law
Gregg Gardner, University of British Columbia
January 16, 4 pm
2022 Thayer, 202 S. Thayer

US. Embassy Tel Aviv

Wieseneck Symposium: US-Israel Relations in the Age of Trump
Warren Bass, Mira Sucharov, Mark Tessler
January 30, 4:00 pm
3100 North Quad, 105 S. State St., Ann Arbor

All events are free and open to the public. If you have a disability that requires a reasonable accommodation, please call at least two weeks prior to the event.

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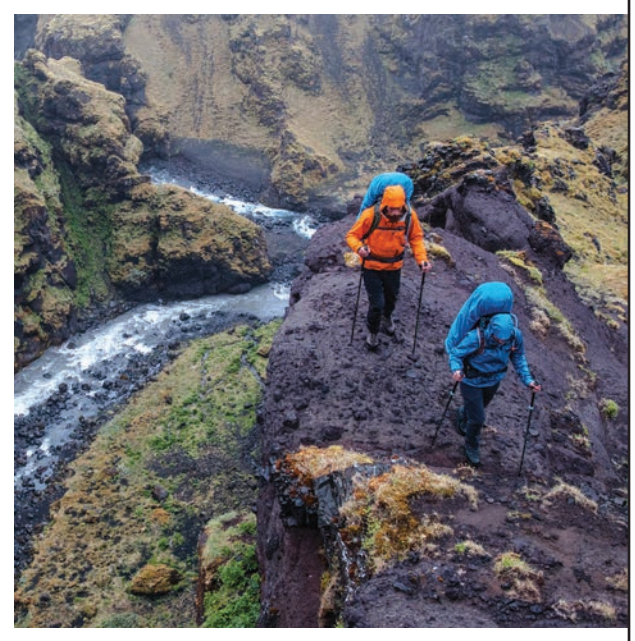

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HDS library renovation brings community together

Jennifer Rosenberg, special to the WJN

Students at the Hebrew Day School of Ann Arbor love to read! Over the years, parents and teachers have delighted in observing how these little "people of the book" devour the volumes in the HDS library collection. However, until quite recently, the Day School library did not have a modern catalog system, nor enough space to store all of the books.

All of that is changing thanks to a volunteer project at the school led by alumni parents Samantha Hendren and Jason Schwalb. Their daughter Anna was in the Gan at HDS when she was killed in a tragic accident three years ago. Anna loved books and spending time in the library, and her parents felt it would be fitting to honor her memory with a project to improve the HDS library. Current HDS parents and teachers, HDS alumni and their parents, and members of the larger Ann Arbor Jewish community have rallied around Sam and Jason, working for about a year and a half to help modernize the HDS library.

Morah Gannon helps a student check out a book using the new electronic system

"It has been inspiring to see so many members of this amazing community volunteer to help with the library project," says Hendren. "At this point we have catalogued all of the English language fiction and are on our way to finishing the non-fiction. That's about 6,000 books so far!"

To modernize the library, the school invested in an electronic catalog system called Alexandria that has enabled HDS to create a searchable database that can be accessed from any computer. Books can now be scanned in and out of the library by barcode, rather than with old-fashioned cards in the back of each book. The system also enables teachers to quickly search for materials to complement their lessons. Since the catalog is cloud-based, teachers can access it from anywhere using a computer, tablet, or phone. Teachers have noted that improved accessibility has immediately increased the ways and degree to which they are able to use the incredible resources in the library collection. Kindergarten teacher Debbie Carbone explained: "I have found searching the catalog at home to be especially convenient and easy. In the past, I'd reserve books at a nearby Ann Arbor branch and wait a few days before having the books available to accompany my lesson. Now, I can simply go online to the HDS catalog and pick up the books the very next day."

"The students simply love the new library system," says Carol Gannon, the media center specialist and fifth grade teacher. "It is fun for them to search the database for books on subjects that interest them. Also, re-organizing the library has resulted in more circulation of the wonderful Judaic fiction in our collection." In fact, students are checking out a wider range of books from all genres. "I've seen a particular increase in students checking out historical fiction and science books. The process of cataloging the books has the additional benefit of allowing us to evaluate the books for accuracy and ensure the content is not outdated," she adds.

HDS student uses the new catalog system to locate her book

Donations to HDS in Anna's honor have financed these improvements, as well as the purchase of new shelves. Hendren says "we will keep at it until all of the books are in the catalogue. Ultimately, we hope to raise the funds to move the library into a bigger space. But for now, it is gratifying to see the kids enjoying the library so much." ■

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A song about the immigrant experience

Emily Slomovits, staff writer

My father has told me about many of his life experiences, but one that has had a profound impact on me was his journey to America with his parents and twin brother. My father was born in Hungary, moved to Israel at age eight, after the 1956 Hungarian Revolution, and then his family immigrated to the United States in 1959.

For many Jewish Americans, part of their identity is shaped by the experiences of their Jewish ancestors, and how they immigrated to America. I know that my identity as a Jewish American been shaped in some way by my father's journey.

Jeff Gold and Paul Zollo, two celebrated musicians and songwriters who now live in California, have recently co-written a song about the many people who came to America through Ellis Island and elsewhere. The song is called "Adonoi", which means "Lord" in Hebrew. The last verse ends, "And the new world awoke/Where our grandfathers spoke/Adonoi echod (The Lord is One)/And like them we pray/And we live unafraid/In the open arms of God". It is a historical account of the trials faced by the immigrants who came from Europe, a prayer for their descendants, and an anthem of our strength as a people, all in one song. I spoke with Gold and Zollo about what prompted them to write the song, their grandparents' experience as immigrants, and more.

WJN: Can you tell me a little bit about your grandparents who immigrated to the United States? When did they come, and where did they come from?

Gold: My grandmother on my mother's side lived in a small Russian village similar to Anatevka in Fiddler on the Roof. At ten years old while trying to flee the country with her father she ended up in a Russian prison after they were caught by the Russian border patrol. This was in 1908. In the middle of the night she escaped and walked ten miles in the rain through the forest with no shoes to the Polish border, and eventually was reunited with her family and then came to New York to settle. She became a writer and wrote about her experiences in Russia and about coming to a strange country. My grandparents on my father's side came as adults in 1918 and also settled in New York after the Cossacks stole all of their money and jewelry.

My grandparents were Orthodox and I was very close to my grandparents. They were always proud of our heritage and Jewish traditions. They always spoke Yiddish and my grandmother was an amazing cook; her kitchen always smelled Jewish, if that makes sense. I always admired that my grandmother in the 1950's opened her own business when it was almost unheard of for a woman to have a successful business.

Zollo: My paternal grandparents both come from Eastern Europe. My grandfather came from Poland and my grandmother from Lithuania. My grandmother, Ester Zollo, was called a "litvak," the word for Lithuanian Jew. My father, Burt Zollo, was their only child. My grandfather, who we called Poppa Ray, told me of his childhood in Poland, being quite wealthy. But that ended with the Tzar, when all their wealth was taken away from them. Their name was Zlotnik. His father Barney came to America first to get established, before bringing his wife and children. Poppa Ray told me they came over in steerage, which is under the boat, and emphasized that it was not luxurious in any way, but quite the opposite. At Ellis Island, the name Zlotnik got changed to Zollo. Normally they would translate the name into an American English name. Zlotnik means Goldsmith or Goldman. My collaborator

Jeff Gold

Paul Zollo

Jeff Gold shortened his own original name, which was Goldsmith. Zollo, however, is an Italian name, something I didn't know for years! But when I was maybe 14, at a family dinner, I asked why we got the name Zollo. Poppa Ray said, "It was a mistake. The guy at Ellis Island couldn't understand my mother, and he gave us 'Zollo.'" But his sister, my great Aunt Harriet, was also there, and she said, "That is not true, Raymond!" She said, "The truth is we chose that name because we didn't want people to know." I had no idea what she meant. Naively, I asked, "Know what?!" Everyone laughed. I had no idea even why this was funny. Then, almost in unison, everybody explained: "That we were Jews!" And then my dad said, "And not just any Jews – Polish Jews!!"

This was the first time I learned that being a Jew was ever something to hide. I soon learned, of course, not only of the Holocaust, but of the ways Jews were treated in America at first – and still – and how it was preferable then to be considered Italian rather than a Jew. That revelation – that my very name was chosen to hide our true identities in America – has always shaped my thinking. I have found it ironic, funny even, sad, and so emblematic of the American experience. I found it funny because my own mother would always ask the last name of any girl I ever dated, just to know if they were Jewish. Since we didn't even have a Jewish name ourselves, this seemed farcical to me. As did her hope, which I didn't really understand then as I do now, that I date and ultimately marry a Jewish girl. Knowing of Jewish persecution through the ages – and up to and through these modern times and at the very heart of WWII, in which my own father fought – has forever shaped the way I see myself in the world, knowing I came from those who came to these shores with nothing, and fought hard to make a life here.

WJN: How did their experiences as immigrants shape each of your identities as Jewish Americans?

Zollo: I was raised in Wilmette, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago, and most of my friends were Jewish. So, at first, I was not even aware that Jews were a minority, much less a persecuted one. Anti-Semitism meant nothing to me then. Gradually learning about it changed all my ideas about my place in America, and what is possible here. Gradually my Jewish consciousness shifted. When I was a little older I began to learn more about our own personal history. My father, who had perfect grades in high school and perfect attendance, applied to Northwestern University, and was initially rejected. His mother, my grandma Ester, knew why. They had a quota then. This was 1944, and they allowed in only a small number of Jewish students each year. My grandma would not allow this. I never learned exactly what ensued, but I know she went to Northwestern, had a passionate meeting, and when it was over my father was admitted. He graduated – after time off in the army – with honors.

WJN: In what ways do you find that your Jewish identities overlap with your music?

Gold: Most of my songs are about the human condition and have a keen sense of morality, the morality of Tikkun Olam. That would be how my Jewish identity is present in my music.

Zollo: In every way that there is. This is a subject about which I think a lot, and have studied. In addition to being a songwriter, I am an author and music journalist, and have written several books about songwriting and songwriters. I'm also one of the editors of American Songwriter magazine, former editor of SongTalk magazine. For both I have done extensive writing on the arc and evolution of the American popular song. And that evolution has been profoundly and undeniably shaped and expanded by Jewish songwriters. It's a fact many ignore, but to me it is significant, because through the generations, so many of the true innovators of songwriting, the geniuses, the ones who wrote songs which became standards, songs which have lived for decades and through many lifetimes, were Jews. The names are legend: from Irving Berlin, George & Ira Gershwin, Jerome Kern, Richard Rodgers & Lorenz Hart, Oscar Hammerstein, Yip Harburg, Sammy Cahn through to Bob Dylan, Paul Simon, Leonard Cohen and Randy Newman to Amy Winehouse, Matisyahu and beyond. Never have I felt it is simply coincidence that so many Jews became not only good songwriters, but many of the greatest ever. I have asked many famous songwriters I've interviewed if they had any idea why this is so. Paul Simon, who is one of the most thoughtful and brilliant people I've ever known, said, "I'm not really sure, but I think it has something to do with having heart and mind together." I believe that is the crux of it. As songwriting is the fusion of two elements – words, which are specific and intellectual, directed at the mind – and music, which is abstract and emotional and can touch the heart – the greatest songwriters have a great capacity to bring both heart and mind, in powerful ways, to songs. So, I have always felt being a Jew- and also knowing our history – has informed and shaped every song I write.

WJN: Your press release states that "unlike most Jewish songwriters who have concealed their Jewish identities in their songs", you wrote "Adonoi" to embrace your "shared heritage, and the spirit of inclusion and religious liberty on which America was founded." Can you talk a little about why that is important to you?

Gold: I think that it is important for Jewish songwriters to leave a record. It doesn't have to be in all their songs, but some of the songs should be about where you came from and where we should be going as Jews. No one else is going to write about it, so we should. The songwriters of the 1900's wanted to fit in to American Society, thus changing their names to hide their Jewishness. I think it should be embraced. It's important for Jewish songwriters to write about things that speak to Jews but have universal themes.

Zollo: I feel the time is right ——and more ripe — than ever to show pride in our shared heritage. That our story is an American story. It is a brave and powerful story, and one in which we should share with pride, not any sense of shame. Also, given that the present administration wants to deny the poem on the Statue of Liberty, written by the Jewish poet Emma Lazarus for America to welcome the "huddled masses yearning to be free" from around the world, and wants to close the door — and build a physical wall — all to keep immigrants out, this seemed the right time for this song. As I said, our story is an American story. It celebrates those values that truly made America great. The idea that we make America great by going in the other direction, and excluding people based on their country or religion, is so antithetical to the great spirit of this country. It is that spirit that welcomed our grandparents, which led to our lives here, and which led to the creation of the great American songbook.

WJN: How did the two of you meet? Also, have you collaborated before? What inspired you to write this song together now?

Gold: I met Paul almost 25 years ago when he was the editor of a songwriter magazine called Songtalk, through a mutual friend that worked with Paul at the National Academy of Songwriters. We became instant friends and he has become my brother from a different mother. We had talked for years about writing together but until I came up with the idea of co-writing a song about our grandparents, it never happened. I came up with the chorus first and then we built the song around the chorus.

Zollo: We met in Hollywood when Jeff came to my office at the National Academy of Songwriters. Once, we drove out to Malibu to do a radio show together, Malibu Folk, and we

continued on next page

2017 Susan L. Lichter Memorial Endowed Israel Scholarship

Each year, the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor provides assistance to local high school students who are interested in spending a portion of their summer in Israel. Hadas Kluger was one of two local students who received a 2017 Susan L. Lichter Memorial Endowed Israel Scholarship. An essay from Zach Rochman, fellow scholarship recipient, was highlighted in the November issue of the Washtenaw Jewish News.

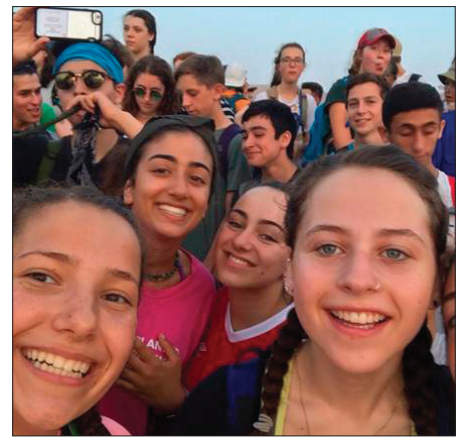
My trip to Israel

By Hadas Kluger

This summer, I went to Israel on a five-week program with the youth movement Habonim Dror thanks in part to the Susan L. Lichter Memorial Endowed Israel Scholarship. Stepping off the plane in New York, I was nervous and excited for this experience I was about to embark on. In New York, I was able to meet so many different teenagers who lived all over North America. Having the opportunity to meet so many amazing people who later I could call some of my best friends, was an amazing experience, one I will never forget.

Once we arrived, we were able to introduce ourselves to the Canadians who were also a part of our trip but had arrived earlier. After all the meeting and greeting, we were taken to Kibbutz Ravid, a kibbutz that is connected to Habonim Dror and to my father, who used to live there when he made Aliyah. Already knowing that, I felt so connected to Israel through my father as well as the love I felt for this movement. After many icebreakers and activities, I was able to make many new friends from all the different camps. We were then on our way sleeping in different hostels, learning about different parts of Israel, and creating deeper connections with friends.

One of my favorite sites in Israel was the Dead Sea. Not only is it a great touristy site, but it also is a very fun place to "literally" lay on your back and have an amazing conversation with someone. Another experience in Israel that I will never forget is called *rafsodia*. This is a two-day process where we first built rafts with our own hands and we sailed across the Kinneret the next day. That experience was very memorable for me because after all the blood, sweat and tears we shed, my group of friends and I all became closer and we had an amazing finished product that got us from one side of the sea to the other.



Hadas Kluger and new friends celebrating another fun day in Israel

Over the course of my time in Israel, I was able to learn more about how I identify as a Jewish person in society and how I want to raise my children when I'm older. Not only did I blend in because of my Hebrew name, I felt as if I was automatically a part of Israel for how I was raised and the movement that I was already a part of. This trip reinforced the values I grew up with, such as speaking Hebrew, celebrating Shabbat, among many other traditions that I will continue to celebrate in the future. It was an eye opener learning about the Palestinian and Israeli conflict, as well as learning how to lead activities during the year that we bring back to our camps for the younger campers.

Overall, I would not trade this trip for the world and I am so grateful for the Lichter family for their generosity of helping teens like me embark on an amazing trip. ■

For more information about this scholarship and the Federation Israel Travel Subsidy (including 2018 application due dates), visit: https://www.jewishannarbor.org/israel/israel-trip-scholarships.

On Another Note, continued from previous page

really bonded. Jeff invited my wife and to Jewish holidays at his house, and we have gone every year, as both of us have had kids. We performed together many times. I had written songs with many people, all of whom were not close friends the way Jeff is. But that changed when Jeff told me he had written a part of a song. He had the chorus of "Adonoi" finished – music and words. The chorus is the prayer, essentially. "Adonoi… the Lord will reign for all time." He had written the music for the verses, but it had no lyrics, and that was my job. Almost immediately I thought of writing about our shared heritage, as I know it's a subject Jeff would embrace, and it would fit the song in a powerful way. The first line came quickly and worked so well that I knew I was on the right track: "Our grandfathers came across the sea with stories they were told." I am not a fast songwriter, and it took me a long time to finish it, and get it to where I wanted it. Eventually I did, and Jeff was very happy with it. Of course, being us – we didn't agree on everything, and ultimately had to compromise to finish the song.

WJN: Is there anything else I haven't mentioned that you'd like to touch on?

Zollo: I am so gratified that people have responded to the song. Every time it is performed – or we perform it ourselves – the response is really special. Jews get it – and so do non-Jews. Also, this is, without a doubt, the single greatest accomplishment of my life according to my mom, who is 88 and is in assisted living in Illinois. I sent her the record with Michael Stein singing, and she gave one to the rabbi who comes there every Shabbos to give a service. He so loved the song that he plays it every week. My mom calls me every Friday after service, always in tears, saying, "They played your beautiful song tonight, Paul. It made me so proud."

To hear the song, visit www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ik2tCJFXUX4

Chanukah food traditions

Lonnie Sussman, staff writer

"Oh Chanukah oh Chanukah, come light the menorah.
Let's have a party we'll all dance the Hora.
Gather 'round the table we'll give you a treat.
Dreidles to play with and latkes to eat."

I don't want to offend anyone but this is the worst "joyful" holiday song ever. It's in a minor key. It's unbelievably trite. It makes no sense. It's also probably the source of the canard, "They tried to kill us, we won, let's eat." There are much better Chanukah songs both in Hebrew and English.

Chanukah, our early winter holiday, has deeper meaning than just a time for gift giving. In fact, Purim was the traditional gift giving time, not Chanukah. We know the story of the Maccabees and the heroism of the few protecting the people from the many. We know the story of the miracle of the oil lasting eight days instead of only one. We also know that many religions celebrate a holiday near the winter solstice that includes lights.

Many of us look forward to eating potato latkes and we argue about whether to have applesauce or sour cream on the side. Why don't we dip them in catsup? We use that on other fried potatoes. In any case, make the potato latkes with white potatoes, or sweet potatoes. Use onions or leeks or make them from carrots and spinach or many other vegetables. They are always delicious.

We are also familiar with jelly doughnuts, *sufganiyot*, a Israeli tradition. I remember one Chanukah in Israel where we were visiting and had *sufganiyot* EVERY night!!! They are sprinkled with powdered sugar, have a dab of jelly in the middle and are not greasy. Still, eight nights of this may be seven nights too many.

Anyhow, there are many other Chanukah food traditions that we are not as familiar with. Most of them involve oil, lots of oil. There was a tradition in Europe before World War II to eat a goose. It was a kosher bird, had tons of oil and many people raised them. Every year my dad would say, "I want a nice *ganz*." That's Yiddish for goose. But, it's hard to find a kosher goose here in the United States so I have altered this traditional roast goose recipe to roast duck. ■

Duck with Apple Stuffing

serves 4-6

one duck, 6–8 pounds (or goose, if you can find one)
1 onion
8 tart apples
light vegetable oil for frying
6 tablespoons Calvados or cognac or apple cider
2 teaspoons cinnamon

Rub inside of duck with salt and lemon juice and place an onion inside the cavity. Roast breast down in a 400° oven for ½ hour. Take it out and pierce skin all over with a fork to allow the fat to escape. Roast another ½ hour and then pour out all the fat into a bowl. Sprinkle the fat with the Calvados or cognac or cider and return to the pan. Roast until the juices run clear when you pierce the leg.

Peel and slice the apples and sauté them in the oil. You may need to do this in batches until they are lightly browned. Add a bit more of the Calvados or the other liquid and the cinnamon. Serve as a side dish with the duck.

from Claudia Roden's The Book of Jewish Food

Channukah Salad

serves 6–8

1 pound fresh asparagus (the original recipe calls for canned asparagus, ugh) or celery sticks

2 carrots, sliced into thin circles
leaf or shredded lettuce of your choice
olives, sliced radishes, green onions, and/or parsley for optional garnish
salad dressing of your choice

The kitsch of this salad is to use the green stalks of asparagus or celery as the candles and the carrot slices as the flames. Arrange everything on a bed of lettuce so it can lie flat. Serve on a long platter.

from Leah W. Leonard's Jewish Cookery

Zucchini and Cheese Latkes

makes 3–4 dozen

8 medium zucchinis, grated
3 eggs
5 green onions, thinly sliced
½ cup chopped parsley leaves
2 tablespoons chopped fresh mint leaves
1 cup shredded cheese (mozzarella or Swiss)
vegetable oil for frying
1½ cups flour
salt and pepper to taste

In a large bowl combine the grated zucchini, eggs, green onions, parsley, mint and cheese and 1 tablespoon oil. Add the flour slowly mixing thoroughly after each addition until the batter has enough body but isn't too thick. Season to taste with salt and pepper.

Use a large heavy skillet and heat about ¼ inch of oil. Add a tablespoon of batter, flatten it a bit and cook on both sides until golden brown. Drain on paper towels.

Note: When I get bored with cute mini latkes they turn into bigger and bigger latkes. Now the recipe makes about 1-1/2 dozen.

from Judith Zeidler's The Gourmet Jewish *Cook*

December 2017

Friday 1

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Noon–1 p.m.

Jewish Karate/Shalom Gever: TBE. 4–5 p.m.

Family Shabbat Services: TBE. Tot Shabbat from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Step Up Shabbat from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner from 6:15–6:45 p.m. Shira from 6:45–7:15 p.m. Shabbat Service–Birthday/Anniversary Blessings from 7:30–9 p.m.

First Friday Shabbat: JCS. Includes secular Jewish readings, songs, candle lighting, wine and challah. Latkes and Chanukah activities will follow the short observance. Held at the JCC. $10/person or $25/family. Register online at jewishculturalsociety.org/observances/shabbat/. 6:30–9 p.m.

Saturday 2

Torah Study: TBE. 8:50–9:50 a.m.

Chanukah Bazaar: TBE. 9 a.m.–2 p.m.

3rd Grade Naming Program: TBE. 10:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

9th Grade Madrichim Training: TBE. 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Shabbat services: See listing at end of calendar.

Sunday 3

Social Action Committee Meeting: BIC. 10 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Voices in Impression: Readers Theater Group Organizing Meeting: JCC. Organizing meeting for a new readers theater group that will rehearse and present plays and dramatic readings. For information, contact Jim Morgenstern at jmorgie@yahoo.com. 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

WTBE Chanukah Bazaar: TBE. 3–7:30 p.m.

Adult Hebrew: TBE. 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Shir Chadash: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

Book Talk: BIC. *The Book Smugglers,* presented by author David Fishman, PhD. 6:30 p.m.

Monday 4

Reflecting on Politics, History and Half a Century: Frankel Center. A panel of colleagues and former students of Zvi Gitelman discuss current research on some of the topics that have interested Professor Gitelman throughout his distinguished career. "A Century of Ambivalence: Politics and the Jews," a panel discussion, from 3–4:45 p.m. with Anna Shternshis, University of Toronto; David Fishman, Jewish Theological Seminary; and Todd Endelman, University of Michigan. Followed by lecture at 5 p.m. by Zvi Gitelman, University of Michigan. 4th Floor Assembly Hall, University of Michigan Rackham Graduate School. Co-Sponsored with UM Department of Political Science and Center for Russian, East European, & Eurasian Studies. 3–6 p.m.

Keshet: TBE. 6–8 p.m.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. 7–8:30 p.m.

WTBE Fiber Arts Group: TBE. Offsite. 7–9 p.m.

Tuesday 5

Latke Making: TBE Brotherhood. 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

JLI Course–Great Debates in Jewish History: Chabad. Questions to be raised include: Why were the authors of the Dead Sea Scrolls opposed to rabbinic interpretation? What motivated the rebels at Masada? What is the Jewish perspective on taking up arms when defeat is inevitable? Are faith and reason mutually exclusive? What motivated the anti-Maimonideans in banning and even burning some of the works of Maimonides? Is religion designed to be a private and personal experience or one to be proudly paraded in the public domain? 9:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

***Yidish tish* (Yiddish Conversational Group):** Beanster's Café in UM Michigan League, 911 North University. All levels and ages welcome for conversation in *mame-loshn*, which translates to "mother tongue." For information, email egertel@umich.edu or phone (734) 936-2367. 1:30 p.m. *Tuesdays.*

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. *Tuesdays.*

Wednesday 6

Lunch and Learn: BIC. Noon.

Mahj: TBE. Offsite. 1–3 p.m.

Keshet: TBE. 6:45–8:45 p.m.

Theology Book Cub: BIC. 8 p.m.

Thursday 7

Yin Embodied Meditation: TBE. Noon–1 p.m.

Oneg Baking and Caring Community Cooks: TBE. 1–4 p.m.

Jewish Mindfulness Meditation: TBE. 1–2 p.m.

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study from the original Talmud tractate. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 8

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Noon–1 p.m.

Jewish Karate/Shalom Gever: TBE. 4–5 p.m.

Family Shabbat Services: TBE. Tot Shabbat from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Step Up Shabbat from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner from 6:15–6:45 p.m. Shira from 6:45–7:15 p.m. Shabbat Service from 7:30–9 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at end of calendar.

Saturday 9

Annual Blood Drive: TBE Brotherhood. 8:45 a.m.–2:45 p.m.

Torah Study: TBE. 8:50–9:50 a.m.

Chapel Service: TBE. 10–11 a.m.

Shabbat Limmud: BIC. 9 a.m.

Mini-Minyan: BIC. 11:15 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. 11:15 a.m.

Kiddush: BIC. In honor of Rabbi Kim Blumenthal. 12:15 p.m.

Shabbat services: See listing at end of calendar.

Sunday 10

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Adult Social Club Meeting: BIC. 12:30 p.m.

Shir Chadash: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

WTBE Chanukah "How To:" TBE. 5:30–7 p.m.

Monday 11

WTBE Historical Novel Reading Group: TBE. 12:30–2 p.m.

Keshet: TBE. 6–8 p.m.

WTBE DAMES Dinner: TBE. 6–9 p.m.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. 7–8:30 p.m.

Tuesday 12

JLI Course–Great Debates in Jewish History: Chabad. 9:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. *See first Tuesday of month.*

Yidish tish (Yiddish Conversational Group). See first Tuesday of month.

Spirituality Book Club: TBE. 7:30–8:30 p.m.

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. *Tuesdays.*

Wednesday 13

Family Chanukah Celebration: BIC. 5 p.m.

Keshet: TBE. 6:45–8:45 p.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC. 8 p.m.

Thursday 14

Yin Embodied Meditation: TBE. Noon–1 p.m.

Spirituality Book Club: TBE. Noon–1 p.m.

Jewish Mindfulness Meditation Sit: TBE. 1–2 p.m.

Chai'Nukah Party: Ann Arbor ORT. Participants are encouraged to bring an $18 (chai) donation to ORT America and a new or gently-used wrapped book for a Book Exchange. At the home of Ruth Petit. RSVP by December 5 to Joan Levitt at jflevitt@gmail.com. Rides available upon request. 6 p.m.

One Candle for Tzedakah: JCC. J's annual celebration of Tzedakah and the Chanukah holiday. Includes dinner and show by Ring of Steel. For information, contact Jessica at (734) 971-0990 or email jesscagillespie@jccannarbor.org. 6–8 p.m.

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 15

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Noon–1 p.m.

Jewish Karate/Shalom Gever: TBE. 4–5 p.m.

Family Shabbat Services: TBE. Tot Shabbat from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Step Up Shabbat from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner from 6:15–6:45 p.m. Shira from 6:45–7:15 p.m. Shabbat Service/Chanukah Service from 7:30–9 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at end of calendar.

Saturday 16

Torah Study: TBE. 8:50–10:15 a.m.

6th Grade Shabbat Morning with the Rabbi: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Bar Mitzvah Service: TBE. David Gankin. 10 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Baby Shabbat: TBE. 10:45 a.m.–Noon.

9th Grade Midrachim Training: TBE. 11 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

R&R Chanukah Party: TBE. Offsite. 6:30–9 p.m.

Shabbat services: See listing at end of calendar.

Sunday 17

Gan Katan: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Caregivers Support Group: TBE. 4–5 p.m.

Shir Chadash: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

Latkes and Libations: BIC. 6 p.m.

Monday 18

Overflow Homeless Shelter Begins: BIC.

Keshet: TBE. 6–8 p.m.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. 7–8:30 p.m.

WTBE Fiber Arts: TBE. Offsite. 7–9 p.m.

Tuesday 19

JLI Course–Great Debates in Jewish History: Chabad. 9:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. *See first Tuesday of month.*

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. *Tuesdays.*

Wednesday 20

Mahj: TBE. Offiste. 1–3 p.m.

Hebrew Day School Performance: TBE. 5:30–8 p.m.

Keshet: TBE. 6:45–8:45 p.m.

Thursday 21

Third Thursday @ the J: Keeping a Healthy Brain: JCC. Dr. Claudia Drossel, PhD, of Eastern Michigan University, will discuss the steps to take now to maintain a healthy brain and how to interpret changes in brain functioning. She will also provide updates from current research in aging and disorders such as Alzheimer's. For information or to register and/or to reserve a lunch, visit jccannarbor.org/activity/third-thursday-the-j-dr-claudia-drossel-keeping-a-healthy-brain. Noon–1 p.m.

Jewish Mindfulness Meditation Sit (self-guided): TBE. 1–2 p.m.

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 22

Lunch & Learn: TBE. Noon–1 p.m.

Jewish Karate/Shalom Gever: TBE. 4–5 p.m.

Shabbat Achat Dinner: TBE. 6–6:30 p.m.

Shabbat Achat: TBE. 6:30–8 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at end of calendar.

Saturday 23

Torah Study: TBE. 8:50–9:50 a.m.

Chapel Services: TBE. 10–11 a.m.

Shabbat services: See listing at end of calendar.

Sunday 24

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Monday 25

Movie: TBE. Showing of *Hook* at the Michigan Theater. 10 a.m.–1 p.m.

Tuesday 26

JLI Course–Great Debates in Jewish History: Chabad. 9:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. *See first Tuesday of month.*

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. *Tuesdays.*

Wednesday 27

Theology Book Club: BIC. 8 p.m.

Thursday 28

Guys' Night Out: TBE Brotherhood. 6–7:30 p.m.

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 29

Lunch & Learn: TBE. Noon–1 p.m.

Jewish Karate/Shalom Gever: TBE. 4–5 p.m.

Family Shabbat Services: TBE. Tot Shabbat from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Step Up Shabbat from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner from 6:15–6:45 p.m. Shira from 6:45–7:15 p.m. Shabbat Service from 7:30–9 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at end of calendar.

Saturday 30

Torah Study: TBE. 8:50–9:50 a.m.

Chapel Services: TBE. 10–11 a.m.

Shabbat services: See listing at end of calendar.

Sunday 31

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m.

January 2018

Monday 1

WTBE Fiber Arts Group: TBE. Offsite. 7–9 p.m.

Tuesday 2

KidZone Vacation: JCC. Fun and adventure for children in K-5 when Ann Arbor Pubic Schools and Hebrew Day School have scheduled closures. Children enjoy computer time, games, reading time, arts and crafts time, sports, and a kid-friendly movie. Pre and post care available. For information including pricing, or to register, visit www.jccannarbor.org or contact Nicole at nicolefeinberg@jccannarbor.org or by phone at (734) 971-0990. 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

***Yidish tish* (Yiddish Conversational Group):** Beanster's Café in UM Michigan League, 911 North University. All levels and ages welcome for conversation in mame-loshn, which translates to "mother tongue." For information, email egertel@umich.edu or phone (734) 936-2367. 1:30 p.m. *Tuesdays.*

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. *Tuesdays.*

Wednesday 3

Mahj: TBE. Offsite. 1–3 p.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC. 8 p.m.

Thursday 4

Jewish Mindfulness Meditation Sit (self-guided): TBE. 1–2 p.m.

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. Sharpen your wits and knowledge of the Jewish legal system by following the intriguing discussions in the Talmud. The Talmud is a composite of practical law, logical argumentation and moral teachings. Study from the original Talmud tractate. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 5

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Noon–1 p.m.

Jewish Karate/Shalom Gever: TBE. 4–5 p.m.

Family Shabbat Services: TBE. Tot Shabbat from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Step Up Shabbat from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner from 6:15–6:45 p.m. Shira from 6:45–7:15 p.m. Shabbat Service and Birthday/Anniversary Blessings from 7:30–9 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at the end of the calendar.

Saturday 6

Torah Study: TBE. 8:50–9:50 a.m.

Chapel Service: TBE. 10–11 a.m.

Shabbat services: See listing at end of calendar.

Sunday 7

Social Action Committee Meeting: BIC. 10 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Caring Community Cooks: TBE. 2–7 p.m.

Prayer Book Hebrew: TBE. 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Monday 8

WTBE Historical Novel Reading Group: TBE. 12:30–2 p.m.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. 7–8:30 p.m.

Tuesday 9

Yidish tish (Yiddish Conversational Group). See first Tuesday of month.

Spirituality Book Club: TBE. 7:30–8:30 p.m.

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. *Tuesdays.*

Wednesday 10

Theology Book Club: BIC. 8 p.m.

Thursday 11

Spirituality Book Club: TBE. Noon–1 p.m.

Jewish Mindfulness Meditation Sit (self-guided): TBE. 1–2 p.m.

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 12

Lunch and Learn: TBE. Noon–1 p.m.

Jewish Karate/Shalom Gever: TBE. 4–5 p.m.

First Friday Shabbat: JCS. Includes secular Jewish readings, songs, candle lighting, wine and challah. Dinner and "Jewish Jeopardy" will follow the short observance. Held at the JCC. $10/person or $25/family. Register online at jewishculturalsociety.org/observances/shabbat/. 6:30–9 p.m.

Family Shabbat Services: TBE. Tot Shabbat from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Step Up Shabbat from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner from 6:15–6:45 p.m. Shira from 6:45–7:15 p.m. Shabbat Service/Martin Luther King Jr. Service from 7:30–9 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at the end of the calendar.

Saturday 13

Torah Study: TBE. 8:50–9:50 a.m.

Shabbat Limmud: BIC. 9 a.m.

Bat Mitzvah Service: TBE. Samantha Markel. 10 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Preschool 3: TBE. 10:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. 11:15 a.m.

Mini Minyan: BIC. 11:15 a.m.

Shabbat services: See listing at end of calendar.

Sunday 14

K-8 Family Mitzvah Day: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Art Reception: JCC. Celebrate the work of artist Andy Schiff shown in the J's Amster Gallery. For information, contact Karen at karenfreedland@jccannarbor.org or by phone at (734) 971-0990. 3–5 p.m.

Prayer Book Hebrew: TBE. 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Shir Chadash: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

Kol Halev Rehearsal: TBE. 6:15–7:45 p.m.

Monday 15

KidZone Vacation: JCC. Fun and adventure for children in K-5 when Ann Arbor Pubic Schools and Hebrew Day School have scheduled closures. Children enjoy computer time, games, reading time, arts and crafts time, sports, and a kid-friendly movie. Pre and post care available. For information including pricing, or to register, visit www.jccannarbor.org or contact Nicole at nicolefeinberg@jccannarbor.org or by phone at (734) 971-0990. 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

WTBE Fiber Arts: TBE. 7–9 p.m.

Tuesday 16

Yidish tish (Yiddish Conversational Group). See first Tuesday of month.

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. *Tuesdays.*

Wednesday 17

Mahj: TBE. Offsite. 1–3 p.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC. 8 p.m.

Thursday 18

Third Thursday @ the J: Journalism is Dead. Long Live Journalism: JCC. *ANNthology* is a group of 17 collaborators covering topics ranging from local general news to school meeting coverage to southeast Michigan food news. *Jim* McBee and Demond Johnson from *ANNthology* will discuss: the rise of new sources of journalism as daily newspapers fade away; *ANNthology*'s role; and what the future might hold. Event is free but registration is requested by phone at (734) 971-0990 or by email at rachaelhoffenblum@jccannarbor.org. An optional lunch will be available for purchase at the event. Lunch reservation required at least one day before event. Noon–1 p.m.

Jewish Mindfulness Meditation Sit (self-guided): TBE. 1–2 p.m.

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 19

Lunch & Learn: TBE. Noon–1 p.m.

Jewish Karate/Shalom Gever: TBE. 4–5 p.m.

Family Shabbat Services: TBE. Tot Shabbat from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Step Up Shabbat from 5:45–6:15 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner from 6:15–6:45 p.m. Shira from 6:45–7:15 p.m. Shabbat Service from 7:30–9 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at end of calendar.

Saturday 20

Torah Study: TBE. 8:50–9:50 a.m.

Sweatshirt Shabbat and Cholent Kiddush: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

6th Grade Shabbat Morning with the Rabbi: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Chapel Services: TBE. 10–11 a.m.

Baby Shabbat: TBE. 10:45 a.m.–Noon.

Social Action Committee Community Conversation: TBE. 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Quiz Night: BIC. 7 p.m.

Shabbat services: See listing at end of calendar.

Sunday 21

Volunteer Appreciation Brunch: BIC. 10 a.m.

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Prayer Book Hebrew: TBE. 4:30–5:30 p.m.

Shir Chadash: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

Monday 22

Women's Torah Study: TBE. 7–8:30 p.m.

Tuesday 23

Yidish tish (Yiddish Conversational Group). See first Tuesday of month.

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. *Tuesdays.*

Wednesday 24

Theology Book Club: BIC. 8 p.m.

Thursday 25

Jewish Mindfulness Meditation Sit (self-guided): TBE. 1–2 p.m.

TheraPaws Visit: JCC. Bi-monthly visit from TheraPaws, which offers canine-assisted therapy and brings therapy dogs to schools, hospitals and other sites throughout Washtenaw County. For information, contact Rachael at (734) 971-0990 or via email at rachaelhoffenblum@jccannarbor.org. 1–2 p.m.

Guys' Night Out: TBE. Offsite. 6–7:30 p.m.

Tu B'Shevat Tutorial: TBE. 7:30–9 p.m.

Talmud–Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. See first Thursday of month for details. 8 p.m. *Thursdays.*

Friday 26

Lunch & Learn: TBE. Noon–1 p.m.

Jewish Karate/Shalom Gever: TBE. 4–5 p.m.**Shabbat Achat Dinner: TBE.** 6–6:30 p.m.

Shabbat Achat Service | Second Grade Shabbat: TBE. 6:30–8 p.m.

Friday evening services: See listing at end of calendar.

Saturday 27

Torah Study: TBE. 8:50–9:50 a.m.

Chapel Services: TBE. 10–11 a.m.

Second Grade Tu B'Shevat Program: TBE. Offsite. 10:45 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Mini Minyan: BIC. 11:15 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. 11:15 a.m.

Shabbat services: See listing at end of calendar.

Sunday 28

Tanya–Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. Delve into the basic text of Chassidim and discover the beauty and depth of Judaism. 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Tot Family Bowling Event: BIC. 3 p.m.

Shir Kadash: TBE. 5–6 p.m.

Monday 29

Tuesday 30

Yidish tish (Yiddish Conversational Group). See first Tuesday of month.

Tu B'Shevat Seder: WTBE. 6–9:30 p.m.

Tea and Torah on Tuesday—for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. *Tuesdays.*

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Calendar

Wednesday 31

Theology Book Club: BIC. 8 p.m.

Weekly Friday night Shabbat services

Shabbat Service: AAOM. Services held at UM Hillel. Call (734) 994-9258 in advance to confirm time.

Shabbat Service: BIC. 6 p.m.

Shabbat Service: TBE. Tot Shabbat at 6 p.m., followed by tot dinner. Traditional Service at 7:30 p.m. Once a month Middle School Service at 7:30 p.m. For information, call (734) 665-4744.

Shabbat Service: Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Congregation. 6:15 p.m. at the JCC the fourth Friday each month. Musical Shabbat service followed by vegetarian potluck. Pizza nosh for the kids at 6:00 p.m. Childcare provided during the service. All are welcome to attend. For information, call (734) 975-6527, email info@aarecon.org, or visit www.aarecon.org.

Shabbat Service: Chabad. Begins at candlelighting time. Home hospitality available for Shabbat meals and Jewish holidays. Call (734) 995-3276 in advance.

Weekly Shabbat services

Shabbat Services: AAOM. Morning service, 9:30 a.m. Evening service, 35 minutes before sunset. Call 662-5805 for information. Mincha/Ma'ariv with Seudah Shlisheet and Dvar Torah every week. Torah topics and a bite to eat. Discussions led by Rabbi Rod Glogower and other local scholars. Home hospitality available for Shabbat meals. UM Hillel.

Shabbat Services: BIC. 9:30 a.m. Shabbat Services: BIC. 9:30 a.m. For other service times please visit www.bethisrael-aa.org.

Shabbat Services: AA Reconstructionist Congregation. Morning services held the second Saturday of each month at the JCC from 10 a.m.–noon integrating traditional liturgy with music, chanting and contemporary readings including Torah service and discussion. A morning of songs and text study takes place the first Saturday of each month. For info, email info@aarecon.org or call (734) 913-9705 or visit www.aarecon.org.

Shabbat Services: Chabad. Friday night services at Shabbat candle lighting time. Saturday morning services at 9:45 a.m. Afternoon services 45 minutes before sundown. Call (734) 995-3276 for Home Hospitality and Meals for Shabbat and Jewish Holidays.

Shabbat Services: Pardes Hannah. Generally meets the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month. Call 663-4039 for more information. 10 a.m. Led by Rabbi Elliot Ginsburg.

Shabbat Services: TBE. Torah Study with Rabbi Whinston at 8:50 a.m. Sanctuary Service at 10 a.m. most weeks. Call the office at (734) 665-4744 or consult website at www.templebethemeth.org for service details.

Home Hospitality for Shabbat and Holiday Meals: AAOM. Call (734) 662-5805 in advance.

Home Hospitality and Meals: Chabad. Every Shabbat and Holiday. Call (734) 995-3276 in advance.

Frequently listed organizations

Ann Arbor Orthodox Minyan (AAOM)
1429 Hill Street (734) 994-5822

Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Congregation (AARC)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive (734) 913-9705

Beth Israel Congregation (BIC)
2000 Washtenaw Ave. (734) 665-9897

Chabad House
715 Hill Street (734) 995-3276

Jewish Community Center (JCC)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive (734) 971-0990

Jewish Cultural Society (JCS)
2935 Birch Hollow Drive (734) 975-98

Jewish Family Services (JFS)
2245 South State Street (734) 769-0209

Jewish Federation
2939 Birch Hollow Drive (734) 677-0100

Pardes Hannah
2010 Washtenaw Ave. (734) 761-5324

Temple Beth Emeth (TBE)
2309 Packard Road (734) 665-4744

UM Hillel
1429 Hill Street (734) 769-0500

Shabbat Candlelighting

December 1	4:42 pm
December 8	4:41 pm
December 15	4:42 pm
December 22	4:45 pm
December 29	4:50 pm
January 5	4:56 pm
January 12	5:04 pm
January 19	5:12 pm
January 26	5:21 pm

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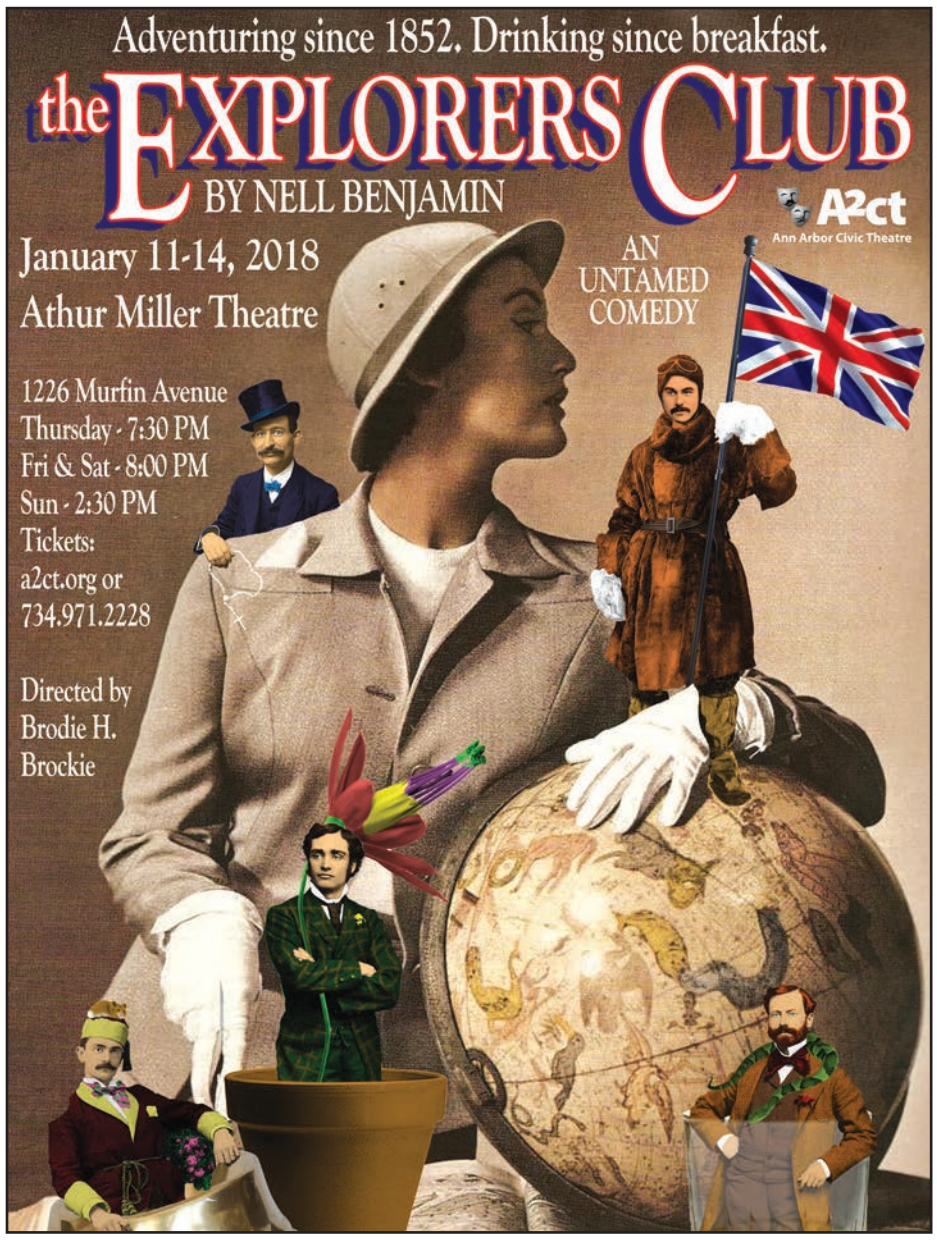

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Sunday, January 28 // 4 pm
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PROGRAM

Brahms	Scherzo in c minor from the "F-A-E" Sonata
Brahms	Sonata No. 3 in d minor, Op. 108
Ravel	Violin Sonata No. 2 in Major
Heinrich Ernst	Theme and Variations on "The Last Rose of Summer"
Paganini	Cantabile for Violin and Piano in D Major, Op. 17
Paganini	Variations on "I Palpiti," Op. 13 (arr. Fritz Kreisler)

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Garrick Ohlsson, piano
Saturday, February 3 // 8 pm
Hill Auditorium

PROGRAM

Eller	Homeland Tune
Brahms	Piano Concerto No. 1 in d minor, Op. 15
Tubin	Symphony No. 5 in b minor

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Vitals

Mazel tov

Ian Lewis on his bar mitzvah, December 2.
Dylan Pacernick on his bar mitzvah, December 2.
Josephine Wilensky on her bat mitzvah, December 16.
David Gankin on his bar mitzvah, December 16.
Samantha Markel on her bat mitzvah, January 13.
Cindy and Mark Saper on the engagement of their son, Noam Saper, to Rachel Treisman.

Condolences

Susan Schreiber on the death of her father, David Felbeck, October 4.
David Barnett on the death of his father, William Barnett, October 7.
Dr. Reuven Israel on the death of his father, Dr. Jacob Israel, November 6.
The family of Robert Faber on his death, November 14.

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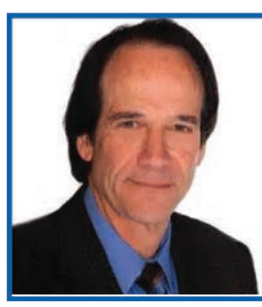

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